



MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

Domestic drama proves chilling news for peers

Few of us with distressing family news to impart can expect such grand messengers as yesterday conveyed the royal news indirectly, to the nation. Where other couples might pay for a small insert in the Personal classified section of the local paper, this couple had the PM nip down to the Commons with the news, and the Lord Chancellor drop into the House of Lords to let peers know.

Your sketchwriter watched from the press gallery in the Upper Chamber as their lordships crowded in and jostled round the throne to hear the penny drop. Bishops hovered anxiously. The air was rent with the sort of high-pitched electronic whistle that sends dogs mad, as a variety of hearing aids, turned to maximum volume, were pressed against a variety of noble ears. Lord Mackay of Clashfern rose to tell us what we had already guessed.

It cannot be said that peers liked it. There was a very faint gasp as the Lord Chancellor said that the separation did not affect the possibility that the royal couple might be king and queen. When he said that they were now entitled to a little privacy, there was a gentle moan of sympathy, for their lordships do not like *The Sun* at all. However, when he quoted the PM's expression of support and sympathy, there was absolute silence: not a hear-ear to be heard. Almost audible was the thought among them that many of one's friends don't get on — indeed Lord and Lady Thistle-down have been barely on speaking terms and living in separate wings of Thistle-down House at Thistle-down Magna for as long as one can remember, but nobody has ever felt the need for a public statement.

This sort of thing is not good for the monarchy. And what is the monarchy but the foundation stone of the extensive and rambling structure we call the aristocracy and of which some of those assembled in the chamber are crumbling outer battlements, isolated towers, lonely hunting lodges or amusing follies? Touch the monarch, peers thought, and the whole structure trembles. Hearing aids were pressed a little more anxiously to grizzled ears.

Nobody really wanted to say anything. For Labour,

its new Leader in the Lords, Lord Richard, mumbled about "regret and sadness" and snarled something about "the tabloids" ("heart, heart") and sat down. For the Liberal Democrats, Lord Jenkins of Hillhead rose and said that he was not going to say anything, but said it in a very grave and noble way, and sat down.

From the absent Archbishop of Canterbury in Kuala Lumpur came a message delivered by the Archbishop of York, Dr Habgood rose and for three or four minutes gently buried himself and his presumed intellect in a blizzard of confused abstract nouns. "Staring... sorrow... unique and stressful... expectations... implications... compassion... pain... the lesser evil... comfort... strength... way forward..." — a soft, remorseless snowfall burying sense.

After this, a great many of them left. The debate on Hong Kong and China resumed. Lady Chalker, whose speeches are intoned like Collects for the day, defended the governor. For Labour, the elegant but strangely irritating Lady Blackstone whined sanctimoniously for 15 minutes, trying to be both for democracy and against it, and concluded with a series of complaints with the internal consistency of Esther Rantzen's *That's Life*. The Liberal Democrat Lord Howe told us that he had been to China, told us some facts about China, and anticipated the "positive avalanche of experience and wisdom" waiting on the Lords benches to speak. Over the floor, the positive avalanche, in blue twin-set and pearls, smiled graciously.

A former governor of Hong Kong, Lord Wilson, showed in his maiden speech that decades of inscrutable Chinese metaphors had got to him. He compared the colony's future to a great river, in which "the present difficulties" were rocks or eddies that we must navigate round in our splendid progress to the sea. Whether he saw himself as a rock, an eddy, or one of the deeper stretches, he was too modest to say.

Lady Avallanche of Grantham spoke next. She congratulated the governor on his maiden speech. Then she congratulated herself on appointing him.

The prime minister confirmed what the



End of the dream: public affection between the couple ended when his kiss missed its mark



Tense silence in the Commons as news is broken to nation

By ROBERT MORGAN
POLITICAL STAFF

A HUSHED and tense House of Commons was united in expressions of sympathy for the Prince and Princess of Wales yesterday as John Major told MPs the couple were to separate.

The prime minister, surrounded by most of the cabinet, was heard in almost total silence as he repeated the statement, issued simulta-

neously by Buckingham Palace, announcing the separation and ending months of speculation. Westminster had been gripped with anticipation since news spread at around 12.45pm that Mr Major was to deliver a special statement and had called off his talks with Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, in order to do so.

The only sound during Mr Major's short statement was a gasp of surprise when he said there was no reason why the Princess of Wales should not be crowned queen in due course.

The House heard that the royal couple would continue to carry out "full and separate programmes of public engagements and would from time to time attend family occasions and national events together".

Mr Major told the House that "the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, although saddened, understood and sympathised with the difficulties that had led to this decision".

Party leaders joined the prime minister in calling for understanding, but a discordant note was struck by two prominent left-wingers who used the occasion to make political points.

After reading the official statement, Mr Major said: "I am sure that I speak for the whole House, and millions beyond it, in offering our

support to both the Prince and Princess of Wales. I am also sure that the House will sympathise with the wish that they should both be afforded a degree of privacy."

"The House will wish to know that the decision to separate has no constitutional implications. The succession to the throne is unaffected by it; the children of the prince and princess retain their position in the line of succession and there is no reason why the Princes of Wales should not be crowned queen in due course. The Prince of Wales's succession as head of the Church of England is also unaffected. Neither the prince nor the

princess is supported by the Civil List and this position will remain unchanged."

"I know that there will be great sadness at this news. But I know also that, as they continue with their royal duties and bringing up their children, the prince and princess will have the full support, understanding and affection of this House and of the country."

John Smith, leader of the Opposition, said: "I am sure that the whole House will share the feeling of sadness the prime minister has expressed at the announcement of the separation."

"I also share the hope that a

greater degree of privacy may result for the Prince and Princess of Wales and their children in what would be a difficult time for any family. We associate ourselves entirely with the expression of support for the Prince and Princess of Wales in the carrying out of their public duties," said Mr Smith.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said: "These are going to be difficult times for the royal family and the whole House will wish to extend to them our sympathy, in particular to the Prince and Princess of Wales."

Sir Edward Heath, the former prime minister, said: "It must be one of the saddest announcements made by any prime minister in modern times."

A bitter note was introduced by Robert Crier, Labour MP for Bradford South, who said that hundreds of thousands of ordinary people went through similar strain and difficulty. "Poor housing, low pay and rotten conditions of employment place on such marriages far, far and away greater strains and it would be a welcome day when the government brought a statement here to relieve those strains and not just this narrow royal family."

Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, said the most controversial thing was that there would be no constitutional changes. "It

would be fair to say that as a result of the occurrences over the past several months and the pushing of the self-destruct button by the monarchy, that we could now be witnessing the end of the monarchy. The reigning Queen could possibly be the last."

"And it would not be something that could be blamed on people like those of us who believe there is no need for a monarchy in this land now. In view of that, could I ask the prime minister to bear in mind that this shattering announcement will result in changes in our constitution and that it is high time that we stopped this charade of swearing allegiance to the Queen and her heirs and successors because we do not know from time to time who they are."

Mr Major retorted sharply: "Mr Skinner does not, I believe, speak for the nation or any significant part of it. The affection for the monarchy and members of the royal family in this country is deep, widespread and enduring. We live in a monarchy and, if I may speak personally, I hope and believe we always will."

In the House of Lords there were similar expressions of sadness as peers had heard the statement read by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, speaking for himself and George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is abroad, said: "We share the great sorrow this announcement will cause to the Church and nation. We ask the public to join us in praying that God will bring comfort and strength to the prince and princess, to their children and the wider royal family."

"In the case of unsuccessful marriages, the Church of England accepts that there are sometimes circumstances, however sad, where separation is the lesser evil and the best way forward."

"Questions may be raised about the implications of the separation for His Royal Highness's position as future Supreme Governor of the Church of England. From a legal viewpoint, marital status does not affect the succession to the throne and hence the title of Supreme Governor. The monarch is Supreme Governor by virtue of being sovereign," he said.

Palace regrets couple's parting

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anniversary. The Princess spent the evening at Kensington Palace.

The couple will, however, continue to appear together at important formal occasions, beginning tomorrow night when both will join the Queen and other members of the royal family on board the royal yacht *Britannia* in Leith docks for a banquet in honour of European heads of government attending the Edinburgh summit.

There was no confirmation last night whether they would then travel north with other members of the royal family to attend the Princess Royal's wedding. They will also continue to be seen together at such occasions as the state opening of Parliament and Remembrance Sunday at the Cenotaph. As she remains a full member of the royal family, the princess will continue to receive the usual invitations to Balmoral and Sandringham, although whether she will accept them is another matter.

Otherwise their lives will follow a pattern that has already been discreetly established. The prince will live at Highgrove, where he already spends most of his time and which the princess disliked, and will be given an apartment in Clarence House, official residence of his grandmother, Queen Elizabeth, for use when he is in London. The princess will live at Kensington Palace, already her usual home, where she may be expected to gather an "alternative court" around her.

The couple's public lives will continue to be serviced from their joint office in St James's Palace. The princess is likely to adopt a considerably higher public profile in her own right and to take on many more official engagements.

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Major shoulders his duty to advise and protect the Crown

By PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major's decision to make a statement in the House of Commons about the royal separation was not just a formality, a dignified expression of conventional pieties. He wanted the support of the House, since he knows there are potentially serious implications for the constitution.

Mr Major has been closely involved for some time in the discussions about the royal marriage, not just with the Queen but also the Prince and Princess of Wales.

One senior minister said that while Mr Major had kept these matters to himself, they had taken up a lot of time in spite of all the prime minister's other distractions this autumn.

Like previous prime ministers, Mr Major takes his role as adviser to the monarch very seriously. Up to the mid-19th century, the prime minister was part of the factional battles involving the court, and often also the heir to the throne.

The priority of prime ministers since then has been to defend the institution of the monarchy and to prevent it becoming a matter of party controversy.

The closest parallels to yesterday's announcement are King George IV's attempted divorce from Queen Caroline in 1820 and King Edward VIII's abdication crisis in 1936.

The public trial of Queen Caroline produced friction between Lord Liverpool, the prime minister, and the monarch. Liverpool was always against raising the divorce in parliament. When the major-

ity on the divorce bill fell to nine on the third reading in the Lords, Liverpool realised that it would be rejected in the Commons and the government would have to resign. So the bill was withdrawn, much to the King's annoyance. The Queen was later refused admission to the much-delayed coronation, and died soon afterwards.

In 1936, Baldwin saw it as his duty to protect the monarchy in the face of the waywardness of Edward VIII. He consulted the prime ministers of the dominions, who this time appear to have been merely informed, and opposition leaders in Britain, as Mr Major has done now. During lengthy consultations, Bal-

dwin manoeuvred to ensure that in the end all parties accepted that the abdication was unavoidable, despite the threatened formation of a "King's party" by Winston Churchill and similar mavericks.

Mr Major said yesterday that the Prince and Princess of Wales's decision to separate had no constitutional implications. But for all the solidarity expressed by party leaders, few believe that line can be held. There was a gasp of disbelief from MPs when Mr Major said there was no reason why the Princess of Wales should not be crowned queen in due course.

Dennis Skinner was the only MP to break yesterday's consensus of silence and argue that the announcement was

bound to mean constitutional changes. Downing Street officials later dismissed as hypothetical all questions about what might happen if there is later a divorce or if one or other became involved with someone else.

However, these questions are far from hypothetical. Yesterday's statement assumes that the amicable separation will continue indefinitely. But the position of the monarchy and the prince's future roles as head of the Church of England would be thrown into question by further changes.

Moreover, MPs are apprehensive about the cumulative impact of the breakdown of the marriages of three of the Queen's children on the standing of the monarchy, especially when the Prince of Wales succeeds the present Queen.

In a press article published last weekend, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, sought to rally support by emphasising the backing of the "quiet people" of Britain for the Queen.

Senior ministers are worried that the intensive press coverage contributed to the separation and will affect the future position of the prince, the princess and their children.

Mr Major's appeal to the media to respect their privacy was cheered by MPs. But that will not be the end of the matter.

Yesterday's exchanges in the Commons were an expression more of hope than expectation. The constitutional position of the monarchy has been severely shaken.



'Affection for the monarchy and royal family is deep and enduring. We live in a monarchy; I hope and believe we always will' John Major



'It must be one of the saddest announcements made by any prime minister in modern times' Sir Edward Heath



'It is time we stopped swearing allegiance to the Queen and her heirs because we don't know from time to time who they are' Dennis Skinner, Labour MP

Early marriage quickly in

The Prince and Princess of Wales are expected to be married in the near future. The couple's public lives will continue to be serviced from their joint office in St James's Palace. The princess is likely to adopt a considerably higher public profile in her own right and to take on many more official engagements.

Dynasty e

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world had long suspected: the marriage is all but over



Height of expectation: the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer after their engagement



Just married: the couple leaving St Paul's Cathedral after their wedding to acknowledge the cheers of crowds lining the route

Priority given to princes' happiness

By KATE ALDERSON

PRINCE William and Prince Harry, who continued their studies at school in Berkshire yesterday, were told well in advance of the official announcement that their parents were separating, Buckingham Palace said.

The princes will remain at Ludgrove, near Wokingham, until the term ends this weekend and will share the Christmas holiday between their parents, although it is not yet known whether they will join the rest of the royal family at Sandringham. "They will be with both parents in turn but the exact details are not finalised yet," a palace spokeswoman said.

The announcement of the separation emphasised concern for Harry and William. It said that the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh "particularly hope that the intru-

sions into the privacy of the prince and princess may now cease". The statement continued: "They believe that a degree of privacy and understanding is essential if their royal highnesses are to provide a happy and secure upbringing for their children."

Uppermost in the minds of both

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parents is the stability of their sons' lives. William, 10, and Harry, 8, will have to learn quickly about dividing their time between their mother's residence, Kensington Palace, and their father at Highgrove.

The Princess of Wales will be especially concerned about the effect of the separation on her sons as she comes from a broken home.

Her parents separated when she was six and there followed a protracted legal battle for custody of her and her brother and sisters.

The princess has been closely involved in the day-to-day upbringing of her sons, driving them to nursery and later to school. She cheered them at sports day, publicly wiped away their tears and encouraged them to enjoy normal childhood activities.

The prince has been the target of allegations that he is a stuffy and awkward father, remote from his sons, but during the summer he was photographed hugging them and complained that little notice was taken when he took his sons to Windsor Safari Park and on shooting expeditions.

Prince William Arthur Philip Louis was born at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London, on June 21, 1982, with Prince Charles

by his wife's side. The nation celebrated the birth of the second in line to the throne and the picture portrayed by the Wales's was of an ideal family. Prince Henry Charles Albert David, known as Harry, was born in the same hospital on September 15, 1984.

The difference in the personalities of the two boys was marked at an early age. Harry was described by his mother as "sensitive to atmospheres" and a "quiet observer", and by his father as "the gentle one with a quiet nature".

William developed a boisterous nature in his early years and at kindergarten it was claimed that he earned the name "Basher" and told other children he would "send my knights to kill you when I'm king". He also regularly stuck out his tongue at photographers but has become quieter and more considerate as he has grown.

Early marital frictions developed quickly into unconcealed antipathy

By LIN JENKINS

THE wedding-day kiss on Buckingham Palace balcony in response to the demanding cheers of the crowd set the expected tone of a marriage that everyone wanted to succeed.

The ingredients of a young beautiful bride, a self-assured heir to the throne, popularity, great wealth and a defined public role were a heady mix that could hardly fail. But fail it did, and the painful separation of a couple who now cannot hide their antipathy towards each other marks an end to a private struggle so often played out under the public spotlight.

The wedding at St Paul's Cathedral saw the fruition of the hoped-for schemes of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and her lady-in-waiting, Ruth, Lady Fernoy, grandmother of the shy and unworried Lady Diana Spencer. From the beginning, there were underlying frictions common to many embryonic love affairs.

While many of the difficulties have been unfairly amplified by friends of the couple, and reamplified by the media, it is clear that the courtship was swift. The Prince of Wales

was under pressure to secure the line, and in Lady Diana he believed he had found someone he could teach and mould. He had been ill-prepared to cope with a rival for public affection with a strong sense of her own worth.

Five days before the wedding, Lady Diana cried at a polo match. The press blamed nerves and the intense media focus. Later interpretation said that she was upset at his continuing affection for a past girl friend. The honeymoon was barely better, with the relaxed atmosphere of the royal yacht replaced quickly by Balmoral and a country life that the princess could never fully embrace.

The early years, and the arrival of a son in June 1982, gave the appearance that all was well. According to friends, the cracks that began to appear were papered over in public. The birth of Prince Harry in September 1984 signalled a marked change. The princess imposed her will on the household, ostracised the prince's friends and servants whom she disliked, and gave vent to her hatred of certain aspects of her life.

The prince responded by

returning to his bachelor lifestyle. Friends said that he was increasingly lonely and eccentric, voiced concern that he had no clear role while his mother reigned, and hinted that the blame lay in his wife's often open criticism.

By 1987 the pattern was established. The prince spent a month away from his wife and children at Balmoral, but the domestic arrangements were no worse than those common to many couples in their circle. Recent reports, based on information from the princess's friends, suggest

that a confrontation in the autumn of the following year with Camilla Parker-Bowles, a former girl friend of the prince, highlighted her determination not to allow the rift to become any greater.

Each cultivated a separate group of friends, followed their own interests and maintained a public profile of professional togetherness rather than displays of affection. It was an arrangement that weathered the speculation

generated by the princess's evening with her friend James Gilbey and rumours of a friendship with Major James Hewitt of the Life Guards.

The prince, too, had his friends. When he broke his arm playing polo at Cirencester, friends claim that the princess returned to Highgrove to find him with Mrs Parker-Bowles. Her disapproval and jealousy failed to end the friendship.

The visit to Czechoslovakia in May 1991, when the couple were reported to be in separate rooms, marked the beginning of the open season for public debate on the state of the marriage. On their visit to India in February, the princess used her not inconsiderable skill to generate sympathy for her plight in a loveless marriage. She arranged a photocall and was pictured standing alone in front of the Taj Mahal. None missed the irony. Her husband, on a visit years before, had said that he would one day bring his bride to marvel at its beauty.

During the visit, the prince kissed his wife in public for the first time in four years. But instead of a spontaneous show of affection, it looked awkward and landed closer to her ear than her cheek.

Andrew Morton's book *Diana: Her True Story*, published in June, claimed that the princess was trapped in a loveless marriage. Apparently based on talks with her friends, it said that she suffered from bulimia nervosa and had made several suicide attempts. While many of the claims were fanciful, it clearly established that the marriage was far from a fairy-tale.

During the annual Balmoral holiday, the text of an alleged telephone conversation recorded by a retired bank manager between the princess and Mr Gilbey surfaced. He called her "Squidgy" and blew kisses down the telephone.

Any attempt to hide the animosity between the couple during a trip to Korea last month failed miserably. The princess, on her return, took the unprecedented step of issuing a statement denying a rift between her and the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh after reports that the duke had reproached her for damaging the royal family. What it did not say about the state of her marriage spoke volumes.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TREASURES SEND THEIR MESSAGE OF GREEK MACEDONIA

It is true that when ordinary people refer to Greek antiquity, they usually have in mind ancient cities that had played an important role in the growth of civilization from prehistorical up to the classical period. Among them, Athens, Thebes, Corinth, Sparta, Olympia and other city-states of the southern part of Greece, the Aegean islands, Crete, Cyprus, west Asia Minor and even south of Italy, the very well known "Magna Graecia" are among the prevailing ones. On the contrary Macedonia's history comes into existence since the glorious reign of King Philip, his son Alexander the Great, and his generals who ruled over the remains of the late Persian empire, creating the very well known and so important Greek centers of civilization of Alexandria, Pergamos, Antioch of Mesopotamia. Nevertheless, Macedonia's previous history remains quite obscure to common people.

However, archaeological excavations during the last twenty years brought to light hundreds of ancient Greek cities, temples, palaces, theaters and tombs, one of which is the famous tomb of King Philip, and treasures of an exquisite workmanship and design. Chronologically, they cover the most important periods of the Greek history from the Mycenaean up to the classical times. Their number increases in such a manner, that in the years to come, they will very probably exceed those of the southern part of the country, which was wrongly considered to constitute the main body of Greek antiquity. Therefore, when talking of ancient Greece, one must have in mind its northern part as well, i.e. Macedonia.

The bronze crater of Derveni

Amongst the most important finds are the bronze crater and several other bronze vases with an attractive golden appearance. They were discovered near Thessaloniki, capital of Macedonia in 1969. They are ascribed to the 4th century B.C., a period during which metal working technique in Greece had reached an amazingly high standard of perfection.

The large crater, a unique masterpiece of ancient Greek art and technology, has a 90 cm height, and an approximate mass of 40 kg. The base, the four statuettes, which lie on the crater's shoulder, and the two heavy handles are cast, while the whole main body with the fine relief decorations is forged.



Its golden colour, which led archaeologists to believe that it was gold plated, is due to an unusual high tin content (15%). It is surprising how ancient Greeks had shaped the hard copper-tin alloy into such a large vase and, what is more, they had decorated its main body with high relief decorations.

On the other hand, X-ray investigation led to the unexpected conclusion that this huge crater was from bottom to the middle of its neck a one piece vase. At this point exists the sole welding zone between the main body and the upper part of the crater. Just above the welding point some small size wild animals seem to walk on an irregular ground. In this way, the artist has actually succeeded in hiding the rather rough welding.

Macro and micro examination and experimental work showed that the crater would have been produced by forging, while the smaller bronze vases either by forging, or on the lathe or, finally by a

combination of both. In fact, some of the small vases show signs of spinning on the lathe.

The above study has largely contributed in assessing the achievements realized by ancient Greeks in Macedonia during the 4th century B.C., and has led to the conclusion that throughout this period Greek art and technology had actually reached a climax of perfection and, what is more, Macedonia the new Greek super power that had succeeded Athens after its decline constituted part of the ancient Greek world and a continuation of its civilization.

Prof. Dr. George J. Varoufakis
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Dynasty established in war

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE House of Windsor took its name from the castle and was founded in 1917, succeeding the House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha after George V concluded that his Germanic titles were scarcely suitable at a time of war.

The new name was adopted by a proclamation of the king on July 17 that year, the eighth of his reign, which stated: "Our House and family shall be styled and known as the House and family of Windsor." The Saxe-Coburg name lasted for 77 years, having come to the royal family with the marriage in 1840 of Queen Victoria to Prince Albert, whose father was Duke of Saxe-Coburg. She was descended from the Hanoverian line which had come to the throne in 1714.

The Queen, fourth sovereign of the House of Windsor, declared in 1960 that



female descendants who married would use the surname Mountbatten-Windsor, linking her husband's surname with their descendants. The first use of that name was in 1973 at the marriage of the Princess Royal to Captain Mark Phillips.

After relinquishing the family's German titles, George V earned popularity through public work. Constitutional monarchy

reached maturity during his reign.

His successor, Edward VIII, quickly plunged the Windsor dynasty into crisis through his relationship with the divorcee Wallis Simpson. On December 10, 1936, he executed an instrument of Abdication and stated in a radio broadcast the following day that he found it impossible to discharge his duties without "the help and support of the woman I love".

He gave way to his brother, the Duke of York, who was proclaimed George VI on December 11. With Queen Elizabeth, whom he had married in 1923, the king regained the confidence of a nation badly shaken by the abdication crisis. He did so by standing shoulder to shoulder with his people during the second world war, insisting that he remain at Buckingham Palace while the bombs fell.

'There are circumstances where separation is the lesser evil and hence the best way forward'

Archbishops urge compassion and understanding

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

CHURCH leaders last night urged a show of compassion and understanding for the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said in a joint statement: "In the case of unsuccessful marriages, the Church of England accepts that there are sometimes circumstances, however sad, where separation is the lesser evil and hence the best way forward."

Dr Habgood said that marital status did not affect the succession to the throne and hence to the title of Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Separation did not in itself "in any sense disqualify a person from holding the title of Supreme Governor."

The Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Rev David Sheppard, said: "The church stands firmly for the ideal that marriage is for keeps. However, it has had to face that we are open to the same hurts and failures as other human groupings."

Bishop Sheppard, who is chairman of the church's Board for Social Responsibility, which recently set up a working party to examine family life, said: "One of the

things we need to acknowledge is that the church community is not immune to the human hurts and failures that other people experience."

The church's response to the separation is an indication of how far church attitudes to separation and divorce have changed. According to the Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, the church is walking a tightrope between the ideal of lifelong marriage and the need to help

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those involved in marital breakdown. He said: "The Church of England believes the intention of God is that a marriage is a lifelong union. But we all have to recognise that some marriages are unsuccessful."

Last year remarried men were for the first time allowed to be ordained in the church, with the permission of their archbishop. Many traditionalists still oppose such relaxations of the rules, but this act was yet another sign of how the church is facing the reality of modern, secular society where marital breakdown is increasingly common.

The reaction to the Prince and Princess of Wales's statement indicates a church which is moving from its position of moral righteousness to a more compassionate position of pastoral care and understanding. Few church leaders have not experienced marital problems in their churches or even their own families.

At last night's performance of Handel's *Messiah* in St Paul's Cathedral, where the couple married, the Very Rev Eric Evans, the dean, asked the audience to pray for the couple. As he left for the performance he said: "There is deep, deep sadness... We cannot be judgemental."

Church leaders of other denominations also expressed compassion. Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, said: "It is very sad and I share the sympathy of all those who hold the Prince and Princess in high esteem."

Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who is a close friend of the princess, told *The Universe*, the Catholic weekly, that she was distressed. "I am praying for the family and I feel very sorry for them. Love begins at home and the family that prays together stays together," she said.



Country life: a stylised family portrait by Lord Snowdon of the prince and princess with their sons

Separation presents no barrier to throne

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE separation of the heir to the throne and his wife carries no direct constitutional implication. Even if the couple later divorce — although there is no suggestion that they will — there is no barrier in law to the Prince of Wales becoming king.

As long as the couple remain merely separated, they remain married in law. This would enable the Prince of Wales to be crowned King Charles III — or whatever name he chooses — and his wife to be crowned Queen Diana, Queen's consort — as

THE LAW

distinct from queens regnant, such as the present monarch — have no formal constitutional status.

No divorced or formally separated monarch has sat on the throne since Henry VIII, although George IV tried in vain to divest himself of Queen Caroline in favour of Mrs Fitzherbert. Edward VII, while still Prince of Wales, led a largely separate life from his wife Alexandra, although no formal separation was ever announced.

However, the voice of the people must also be heard if the monarchy is to survive, as Edward VIII discovered.

In 1936, Edward, besotted with the twice-divorced Wallis Simpson, told the prime minister, Stanley Baldwin "that marriage had become an indispensable condition of my continued existence, whether as a king or a man. I intend to marry Mrs Simpson as soon as she is free to marry".

Edward's unwavering determination to marry made his abdication inevitable. He did not require the consent of his ministers to marry, but as Mr Baldwin made abundantly clear to him, the position of the king's wife was different to that of any other wife, in that she became queen. Mr Baldwin was convinced that the British people would not tolerate a twice-divorced woman as wife of the supreme governor of the Church of England — a church which did not, and still officially does not, give its sanction to the remarriage of a person whose former spouse is still living.

Edward then proposed a morganatic marriage, in which Mrs Simpson would have no claim on royal rights, status or privileges and any children would forfeit their right to inheritance. Baldwin took the view that such an act would need fresh legislation. Having been told that neither the British nor any of the major Commonwealth governments would support such a proposal, Edward withdrew from the throne.

Prince Charles's problems therefore lie primarily with the Church of England, whose views on having a supreme governor separated from his wife will count for much. Yesterday the church went out of its way to be supportive and to underline the fact that, in its view, no such problems arise for the time being.

The prince also faces problems with the public perception of his position. No monarch in modern times would contemplate ascending the throne unless he was sure of his subjects' support. And it remains to be seen whether his subjects will tolerate a future king whose consort leads an entirely separate life.

Church role is not affected

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE separation does not affect the Prince of Wales's position as Supreme Governor of the Church of England nor his succession to the throne.

This is the case whatever his marital status and remains so even if the separation becomes a divorce, which many see as likely, even though the couple have no plans to divorce at present.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said the monarch holds the position of Supreme Governor by virtue of being sovereign. "There is no other legal requirement."

Under the Act of Settlement 1700, the sovereign must be a communicant member of the Church of England; having an unsuccessful marriage is no disqualification to being head of the church.

The couple have agreed to a legal separation, but not one which requires court approval. The separation is distinct from a judicial separation which would need to be endorsed by the courts in the same way as a divorce.

With most couples, a legal separation is usually a prelude to divorce, which with consent can occur after two years of living apart. There is usually a document involved, in which the couple set out what they agree as far as children and financial arrangements are concerned.

Such a separation agreement would involve a contractual document. In the case of the Prince and Princess of Wales, there is unlikely to be a specific separation document, although it is understood that lawyers have been involved and papers have been exchanged.

Sir Matthew Farrer, the

Queen's solicitor, has advised the prince, with back-up from his team of matrimonial lawyers.

Peter George, a matrimonial lawyer, said: "The difference between a legal separation and a divorce is very significant. With the latter, the couple are no longer husband and wife; the law has pronounced the dissolution of the marriage."

There were a hundred and one advantages in going for a formal separation rather than divorce, he said. The couple could obtain a divorce immediately only if they were prepared to indulge in

CONSTITUTION

accusations of unreasonable behaviour or adultery, with all the "media furore" that would entail. Alternatively, they could seek divorce after a separation of two years, as the Princess Royal did.

He added that in his view arrangements in this case would be made and would be honoured without the need for any contract. The needs of the children, and the requirement to ensure that they suffered as little as possible, would be the overriding consideration in any arrangements, he said.

Lawyers will have sorted out financial arrangements with the minimum of acrimony. The prince is certain to have full access to his children, who are likely to reside with their mother.

Gill Doran, a matrimonial lawyer, said that agreements when couples decided formally to separate "can be as wide-ranging and as tailor-made as the circumstances in which couples find themselves."

Few wedding details released

BY LIN JENKINS

THE marriage of the Princess Royal to Commander Timothy Laurence in Scotland on Saturday has been eclipsed by news of her brother's separation.

The couple had hoped to keep their ceremony a private, indeed secret, affair until word leaked out and welcome attention being diverted from their wedding. Only scant details have been released, a reflection of their wish for a quiet service.

Both the public and press have been told the weather forecast is for snow and that there will be no means of getting a good look at the couple or guests. Grampian police said driving conditions would be bad on the narrow roads. However, yesterday's confirmation that Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will attend the service at Crathie church on the Balmoral estate will ensure the presence of both well-wishers and media in considerable numbers. Buckingham Palace has not



Princess Royal: spotlight diverted to her brother



Laurence: best man's identity still unknown

added to the short formal statement announcing the wedding. No details have been released about the names of the best man and of any bridesmaids or what the bride will wear.

The princess will join the Queen on board the royal yacht *Britannia* tomorrow. The 39-year-old vessel will be in Edinburgh to host the Queen's dinner for visiting heads of state at the European summit. They will fly to

Aberdeen the following morning and drive to Balmoral. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen Mother and Princess Anne's children, Peter, 15, Zara, 11, will be present. No details have been released concerning other family members.

After the 15-minute ceremony, the royal family will host a small reception for guests and estate workers. The couple is expected to spend the weekend in a cottage on the estate.

Fashion unconscious? Steer well clear of Earls Court, Dec 10-15.

If your idea of high fashion is a pair of stiletto heels, then please wobble off somewhere else. If, however, you're slightly more fashion conscious, then make for Clothes Show Live, which once again is sponsored by Lloyds Bank.

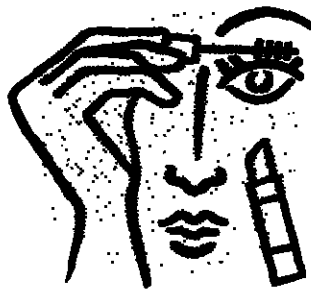
Over 250 fashion companies and designers will be showing their latest lines and collections while experts will be on hand to give professional advice. Over the 6 days, models will change outfits some 9,000 times, to glide down a catwalk the length of a football pitch.

If you'd like an information leaflet, call in at any branch of Lloyds Bank or ring the ticket hotline on: (071) 373 8141. Alternatively, the highlights will be televised in a special edition of the BBC's Clothes Show programme, on Sunday, Dec 13th.

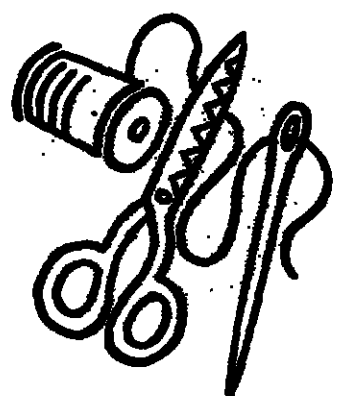
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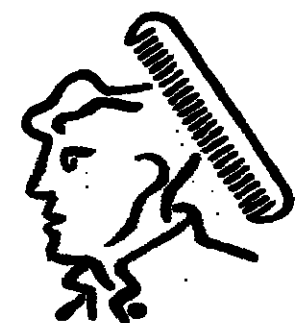
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Papers not to blame for telling sad truth

BY BRIAN MACARTHUR

CURSES on the six popular national tabloids will undoubtedly be muttered around many breakfast tables this morning, but was it the press's fault that the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales turned sour?

As Lord McGregor, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission and an academic expert on divorce, pointed out yesterday, newspapers cannot disrupt the stability of a marriage in which the partners are

not just the royal family but anyone who gets into the goldfish bowl of public life can have their slightest move from the conventional path intruded on and then paraded as if on a gallows before its slaver's public.

There was a quick answer from the tabloids. As Richard Stott, a former editor of the *Daily Mirror* and *The People* pointed out, the main thrust of the reporting of the Princess of Wales's unhappiness and her unhappy marriage has been true, whatever the denials from palace spokesmen.

Complaints about the tabloids, therefore, become an argument about whether the papers should tell the truth, as they so conspicuously failed to do in 1936 over the relationship between Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson. Since then Britain has become a less deferential society and the six national tabloids have led the way in questioning the old Establishment values.

That has undoubtedly led to questionable intrusions into privacy, in particular the publication of private conversations between the Prince and Princess of Wales and their friends in *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror*, obtained by snoopers. Yet it was not the tabloids who invented the Duchess of York or who organised a royal *It's a Knockout* competition or who made the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

He asked: "Do we really want to continue down the road to a hideous world where

loyal to each other. Even palace spokesmen yesterday went out of their way to emphasise that the separation was not the fault of the papers. That denial, made on behalf of the Queen, will not stop many people from continuing to believe that the relentless scrutiny of "Di and Charles" must have exacerbated the strains within their marriage, a view that was put in *The Times* last week by Michael Shea, the Queen's former press secretary. He described the tabloids as "a cancer in the soft underbelly of the nation", adding that they did a huge disservice to society in the damage they caused to individuals and institutions with their daily mix of "sexual innuendo, hypocrisy and lies".

He asked: "Do we really want to continue down the road to a hideous world where

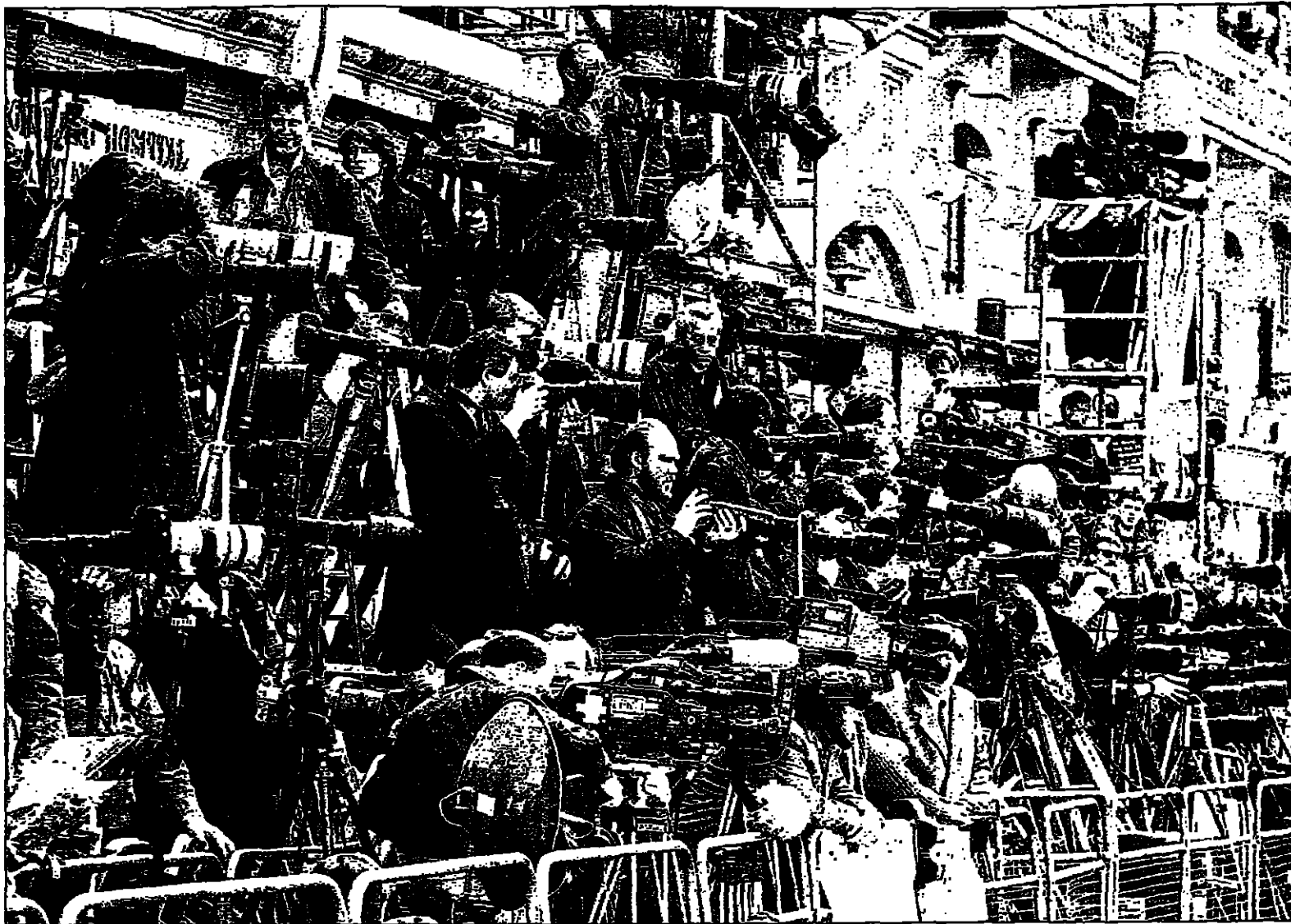
Forlorn hope for privacy

BY TOM CORBY

IN SEVEN years as the Press Association's court correspondent I watched the Wales's marriage until it peaked with last summer's sensational headlines. Both the prince and princess have said that they would prefer their marriage difficulties to remain their own private business, but sadly, it is

an expression of a forlorn hope. Both no doubt realise that the media scrutiny will not lessen in the short term.

During the past year, the sentiment regularly and keenly expressed by their legions of supporters was: "Why can't they be left alone to get on with their job?" Perhaps now they will be allowed to do just that.



Royal watchers: some intrusions into privacy by the media have been questionable, but the main thrust of reports has been true

Pressure grows for curb on media intrusion

BY MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CALLS for new privacy legislation to curb press intrusion into private lives are expected to intensify as a result of yesterday's royal separation.

Long-range cameras, parabolic microphones, two-way radios and a clutch of determined tabloid reporters put the royal marriage under unrelenting public scrutiny.

MPs are also increasingly anxious to prevent journalists from using such devices to hound ministers out of office, particularly after a telephone tap exposed David Mellor's affair with Antonia de Sancha and led to the former heritage secretary's resignation in September.

Last week the Commons national heritage select committee expressed its concern at the use of such equipment to obtain news and photographs. Gerald Kaufman, Labour MP and chairman of the committee, asked whether

it was proper for journalists to resort to such techniques when the police needed the authorisation of the home secretary to tap a telephone line.

The wedding of the prince and princess marked a watershed in royal reporting. Fuelled by tabloid circulation

Mr Morton, a former *Daily Star* reporter, a multi-millionaire. The tabloid reporting inspired by his revelations — from *The Sun's* tapes of the princess's conversations with a male admirer who called her "Squidgy" to the existence of a similar recording said to be of intimacies between the prince and Camilla Parker-Bowles — has also weighted the odds in favour of new privacy legislation to curb press intrusion into private lives.

Yesterday the intrusion was continuing for Mrs Parker-Bowles, who left her home in Corsham, Wiltshire, under a police escort after complaining about reporters and photographers trespassing on her land. Police said that her neighbours also complained of being harassed.

David Calcutt, now conducting a second enquiry into privacy and the press, is thought likely to recommend early next year that physical intrusion and electronic

eavesdropping be made a civil offence applying to everyone, not just journalists. Two years ago he recommended that it be made a criminal offence only for journalists.

Last night tabloid editors and royal reporters were too busy preparing today's editions to comment on what role their newspapers had in bringing about the separation, but they have steadfastly denied acting in anything other than the public interest in exposing the royal rift.

Lord McGregor of Durris, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, said it puzzled him greatly that anyone should seek to blame the tabloids for royal marital woes. "I cannot predict whether this will hasten the arrival of privacy law or not, but I do not believe for one moment that it is within capacity of tabloid or broadsheet newspapers to destroy the stability of good marriages."

"Publicity may be unpleasant and distressing, and indeed I am concerned about the tone of some of the royal reporting, but I don't see how blame can attach to editors for reporting the news."

After the serialisation of the Morton book by *The Sunday Times*, the commission condemned "prurient" royal reporting as "an odious exhibition of journalists dabbling their fingers in the stuff of other people's souls in a manner which adds nothing to legitimate public interest in the situation of the heir to the throne."

Four decades ago the Duke of Edinburgh summed up royal displeasure with the press most succinctly. "God save us from those bloody vultures," he muttered as he strode through a throng of reporters and photographers during a royal tour of the Pacific in 1954. His sentiments have been echoed over the years by his sons and daughter at moments of maximum public exposure.

Damages for duchess over topless pictures

FROM CHARLES BREMMER
IN PARIS

A FRENCH court yesterday ordered a photographer and the publishers of *Paris Match* to pay £84,000 to the Duchess of York and John Bryan, her American financial adviser, for taking poolside photographs of them without their permission last summer.

The duchess and Mr Bryan had sued Daniel Angeli and Cogedipresse, the parent company of *Paris Match*, under the strict French law of privacy after they published photographs of the duchess relaxing topless with Mr Bryan by the swimming pool of a villa at Bormes-les-Mimosas on the Côte d'Azur. The duchess's lawyers employed a private detective to prove that M Angeli took the photographs. The manager of a local hotel gave testimony to the court at Nanterre, near Paris, in October that M Angeli had stayed there at the time of the duchess's visit.

The court ordered the defendants to pay 350,000 francs (£42,000) each to the duchess and Mr Bryan. The photographs appeared in hundreds of publications around the world, precipitating the duchess's fall from grace.

The damages were a small fraction of the £1.32 million that the duchess and Mr Bryan had each sought from the court. The judges said that they were limiting the award to injury suffered by the two from the breach to the "intimacy of their private life" in France only. The two had asked the court to consider the worldwide impact.

The payout equals the previous record for such damages in France, where awards are usually low. The duchess's damages, after legal fees, are to go to charity.

The court severely criticised M Angeli and *Paris Match*, whose circulation soared from 800,000 to 1.25 million with the sensational spread of pictures. The court said that the magazine had "blatantly intended to damage" the duchess's reputation for purely commercial ends. M Angeli denied taking the pictures.

The court was told at an earlier hearing that the duchess's life had been "shattered" and her reputation left in tatters by the publication.

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Cabinet tells Major to lift threat from most pits on closure list

By Philip Webster and Jill Sherman

JOHN Major is to be told by senior cabinet colleagues that most of the pit closures announced in October will have to be shelved at the end of Michael Heseltine's review early next year.

Influential ministers have concluded that neither the Conservative party in the country nor Tory MPs will stomach closures on anything like the scale proposed seven weeks ago before the board of trade president was forced to retreat in the face of the biggest backbench outcry in 13 years of Tory government.

The issue has aroused more concern throughout the Conservative party than any other in recent years, according to informed sources. Some 2,000 letters a day were being received at Conservative central office at the height of a crisis that was calmed only by Mr Heseltine's announcement of a reprieve, pending an enquiry, for 21 of the 31 pits scheduled for closure.

The Times disclosed this week that the Commons trade and industry committee, which has been conducting a parallel investigation, will recommend in January that a "significant" number of the pits stay open.

Yesterday it emerged that both the government review and the committee enquiry are examining proposals that would result in at least 14 of

the 21 pits being reprieved as a result of moves to increase the market for coal by 15 million tonnes.

Sources close to Mr Heseltine are convinced that he wants the government package to be broadly in line with that put forward by the Conservative-dominated committee so as to get the revamped plan through the Commons. They say that most of the evidence to the government's review has been passed to the committee and that most Labour MPs on it accept that some of the pits will have to be closed.

Tory committee members are pressing for privatisation of some of the ten pits outside the government review. Some also argue that about four of the pits should be mothballed.

Mr Heseltine will try to avoid accusations of a climb-down by insisting that the debate has now changed to whether the coal market can be increased. The initial decisions by British Coal were correct when made, given that there was no prospect of more coal contracts, he will argue.

Mr Heseltine disclosed on Tuesday, in a letter to the committee chairman, Richard Cabborn, that a wide series of measures are being considered by the review team to extend the coal market. These include support for the industry through subsidies or a levy

on electricity consumers and legislation to encourage generators to burn more coal.

Mr Heseltine, whose reputation for political surefootedness took a battering after the original announcement is believed by colleagues to be determined not to make the same mistake again.

Ministers sympathetic to Mr Heseltine blame the Treasury for forcing the pit closure programme forward and requiring him to announce the closures in one instalment. They argue that if the government had persisted with a step-by-step approach, most of the furore would have been avoided. Nevertheless, ministers involved in the decision admit that it was "boded" and that they failed to foresee the strength of antipathy to it.

Tory MPs on the committee believe that many of the 21 pits can reduce their costs by changing working practices.

Parliament, page 9



Coal face: a miner at the Markham Main and Bentley pits in Nottinghamshire, in an industry facing a reprieve

Recession led banker to suicide

A BANKER, Ian Miller, who worked in John Major's constituency, killed himself because he could not cope with the pressure of dealing with the problems of small businessmen.

An inquest heard that Mr Miller, 34, of Earith, Cambridgeshire, had worked at Barclays Bank since the age of 16 and had risen to the post of corporate manager at a branch in Huntingdon.

But the strain of being in charge of small business accounts became too much for the father of three. He walked out of his home "for a breath of fresh air" and drove to a beauty spot, where he drank most of a bottle of whisky and asphyxiated himself with fumes from the car's exhaust.

His manager, Jean Temple, told the inquest in Huntingdon: "It's a tough job at the moment. There is a bit of an anti-bank campaign going on and it worried Ian. Like all bank managers the workload was heavy."

The coroner, David Morris, recording a verdict of suicide, said there was a tendency to blame banks for difficulties without realising the effect it could have on bank staff.

Tourist raped on beach

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

A BRITISH tourist has been raped on a beach south of Durban in South Africa. The woman, aged 44, was sitting to read a book on some rocks at 8.30am on Tuesday when she was dragged into bushes by two young men armed with a knife and a screwdriver. They forced her to strip and then took turns to rape her.

The woman was on holiday with her boy friend at a caravan park at Illovo Beach, 15 miles south of Durban. The area is close to the troubled black township of Umhlababazi, in a district that was officially declared an area of unrest last month.

The woman told police that she had taken a stroll on the beach and had sat on the rocks to read when she was attacked. She was taken to the nearby Kingsway hospital and treated for shock.

A week ago two British women were murdered in Natal, further north. Julie Godwin and Elizabeth Over, both 30, were also attacked on a beach. They died of stab wounds.

In September, another tourist, Andre de Kock, from Pretoria, was killed when he disturbed thieves in his tent in Sodwana, a Natal Parks Board resort. His mother, Shelagh Nation, has written to a Pietermaritzburg newspaper urging people to stop going to such areas until law and order has been established there.

Major Coert Marais, of the South African police, advised tourists last night not to stroll alone along secluded beaches.

Council 'tried to gag press'

By Richard Ford

A LABOUR local authority took legal action against the media and Conservative opponents in an attempt to gag criticism of its activities, it was alleged yesterday.

Derbyshire County Council had gone to extraordinary lengths in using libel laws to counter attack by MPs and Times Newspapers, Anthony Lester QC, for Times Newspapers, told law lords. "What is extraordinary is the use of the libel laws by this political body. It is not a body which has been respectful of the need for full freedom of political expression."

The council had also brought libel proceedings against Edwina Currie, the former health minister, and Phillip Oppenheim, a Conservative MP, and had threatened to bring proceedings against a local newspaper and an opposition councillor.

Mr Lester told an appellate committee of the House of Lords that local newspapers, with their limited financial resources, would be particularly vulnerable if councils were allowed to sue for libel.

The council is contesting an appeal court judgment that local authorities and government departments do not have the right to protect their reputations by suing for libel. The hearing arose from two reports in *The Sunday Times* in 1989.

Charles Gray QC, for the council, has said that upholding the judgment would allow newspapers a field day at the expense of those administering local affairs. The hearing continues today.

Husband next door must leave at dusk

By Lin Jenkins

A MILLIONAIRE who bought the house next to his estranged wife in the hope of a reconciliation has been ordered by a court to leave each day at sunset.

Bill Garwood is allowed to visit during daylight hours only to mow the lawn, wash the windows and pick up his mail. Hereford County Court says he must spend the night elsewhere.

Mr Garwood decided to woo back his wife Anne when she left him after 31 years of marriage. It took two years and £50,000 spent on private detectives before he traced her to Leominster in Hereford and Worcester.

Knowing that it could take some time before her feelings softened, he arranged to buy the house next door. But when his wife discovered he was moving in last June she was furious.

"I thought if I got next door we might go out for a meal, get talking and perhaps get back

together," Mr Garwood said from his other home in Guernsey yesterday.

A court hearing due in February will give him the chance to contest the restraining order, which prevents him pestering his wife and stipulates that he must leave the £68,000 house at dusk. Mrs Garwood refused to comment.

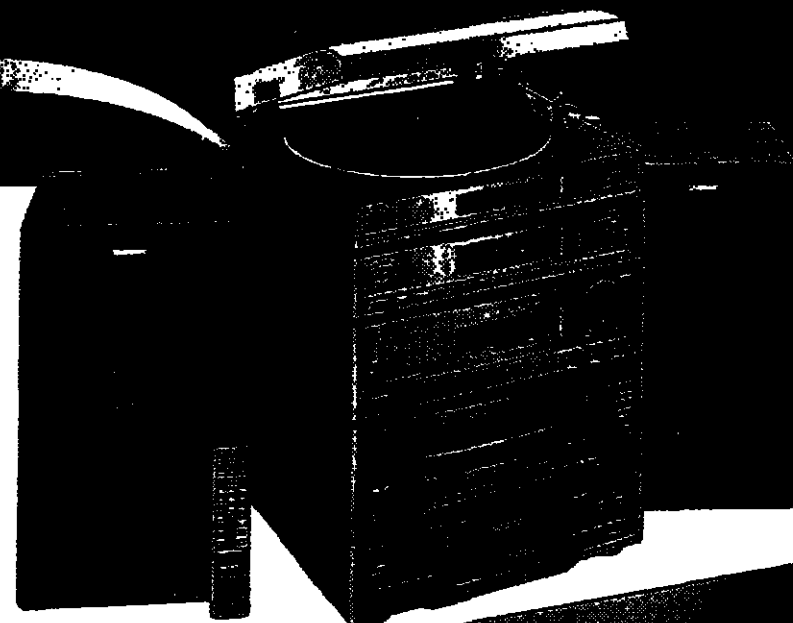
The couple married on Valentine's day 1959 and built up a thriving shop-fitting business in north London. In 1987 Mr Garwood sold the company and became a millionaire. Retirement brought the £500,000 home in Guernsey and luxury holidays. But in the late 1980s the couple fell out over their son Martin's choice of girl friend. Mrs Garwood finally left the island and asked friends not to tell her husband where she was.

She has filed for divorce on grounds of violence and mental cruelty. He has petitioned on the grounds of mental cruelty and desertion.

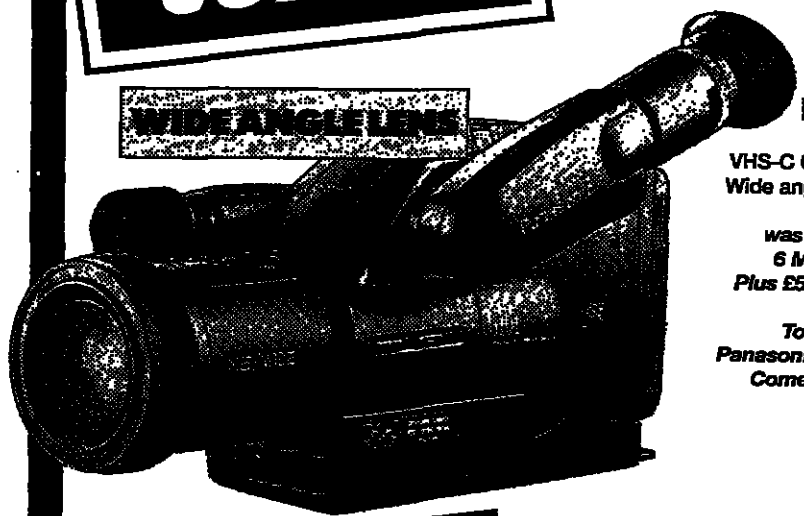
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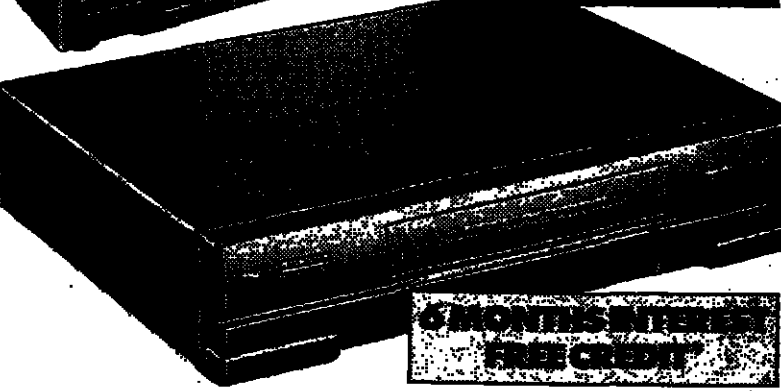
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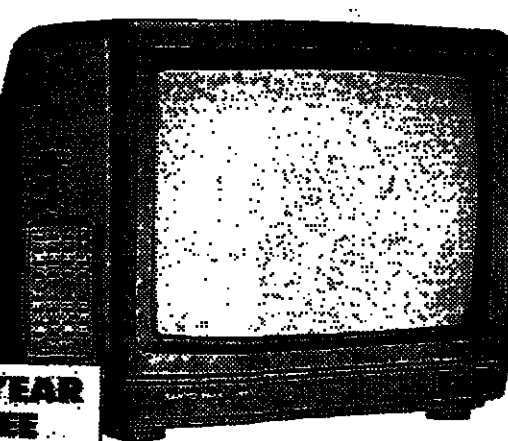
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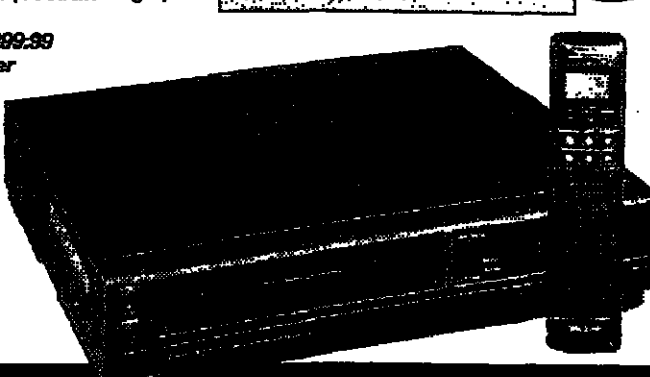


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Sikh temple comes under attack as Asian communities try to ease tension

Muslim leaders blame nazis for violence

By NICHOLAS WAIT

A MOSQUE and a Sikh temple came under attack for the first time as violence in Britain's Asian community escalated yesterday following destruction of the Ayodhya mosque in India on Sunday.

Hindus and Muslims gave a warning that animosity in India was spreading to Britain. Leaders of the country's two million Muslims held an emergency meeting to appeal for calm. Pir Abdul Wahab Siddiqui, president of the International Muslims' Organisation, said Muslims were not responsible for attacks on Hindu temples in Britain and claimed right-wing groups may have been involved.

"We have had letters from nazi groups about the incidents and they are trying to create violence and take advantage of the situation," he said. "Even Muslim hot-heads are restraining themselves. We have had no signs they are involved and we respect each other's places of worship."

Dr Kalim Siddiqui, leader

of the self-styled Muslim Parliament, told the meeting in London, which brought together imams from mosques around Britain, that Muslims had never been responsible for such violence. "Even with emotions running high during the Salman Rushdie affair, we hardly ever broke a window," he said. "We must keep our record of being peaceful and law-abiding citizens of this country."

As Islamic scholars and religious leaders appealed for calm, police were questioning a man about an arson attack on a mosque in east London. Minor damage was caused after petrol was poured through a broken window.

Three Hindu temples in West Yorkshire, an Indian Workers' Association building and a chemist shop run by a leading member of Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the world council of Hindus, were damaged by suspicious fires.

Hindus and Muslims in Southall, west London, said

yesterday that the violence and indiscriminate killing in India had soured their relations in Britain. Zulfikhar Malik, a Muslim shopkeeper, said that before destruction of the Ayodhya mosque, people in Southall did not take any notice of others' religion. "But now people hold grudges on the basis of their religious beliefs. This is more widespread among older people who came from India and Pakistan."

Although the violence in India is mainly between Hindus and Muslims, arsonists attacked a Sikh temple in Luton, Bedfordshire, yesterday, causing £50,000 of damage. Sodhi Ram, president of the Ravdhass community in Luton, said: "What troubles there are in India should not be brought to this country. We should live in peace and not disturb other religions because of what is happening in a faraway country."

Parliament adjourns, page 13



Time for talking: Asians in Southall, Britain's biggest Hindu community

IRA victim loses legs after 'punishment'

The victim of an IRA punishment shooting was on a life support machine in Londonderry yesterday after both his legs were amputated. The RUC said the 36-year-old Roman Catholic was in a critical condition after being shot in both legs by several masked men who burst into his house in Shantallow on Tuesday night. The IRA issued a statement after the attack saying that it had carried out the shooting. There have been more than 100 so-called punishment shootings carried out by Loyalist and republican groups in Northern Ireland this year.

The IRA detonated three bombs in the centre of Belfast yesterday, causing damage but no injuries. The first exploded just before 10.30am in a hijacked car parked in a multi-storey car park over the Victoria shopping centre. There had been a warning and the area had been cleared. A second device in a car on the floor below exploded half an hour later without warning. About an hour later two masked men, one with a gun, carried a device into an electrical shop and told customers and staff they had ten minutes to leave. It exploded outside 15 minutes later.

Courts racially biased

The home secretary has instructed officials to consider ethnic monitoring throughout the criminal justice system after research for the Commission for Racial Equality showed that courts deal with black defendants more harshly than whites and are more likely to give them a jail sentence. A survey of 3,300 cases heard in West Midlands crown courts during 1989 found that Afro-Caribbean males stood a 17 per cent greater chance of a jail sentence than whites; Asians had an 18 per cent smaller chance.

Fears for children's TV

Shrinking programme budgets and increased competition for high ratings have reduced the range and quality of children's television, the Broadcasting Standards Council said in a report published yesterday. Original drama, preschool and factual programmes were particularly at risk. The report also found that children are tuning into satellite channels in greater numbers than adults.

A colour television licence will cost £83 from April, a rise of £3. Black and white licences go up by £1 to £27.50.

CBI calls for new M25

Traffic congestion costs British industry more than £15 billion a year, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday, as it called for a new motorway to provide an alternative to the M25. The proposal would create an outer ring around the M25, from Dover to Southampton, then north along an upgraded A34 to Oxford and eastwards via Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire to the east coast ports. Black and Decker estimated that its Slough factory lost £1.25 million a year because of traffic jams.

Paedophile jailed

Lennie Smith, right, was jailed for ten years by the Old Bailey for sexually abusing a boy aged six. Detectives said outside the court that he was part of a paedophile ring. Smith, 38, was found guilty on specimen charges of gross indecency and sexual assaults on a neighbour's son eight years ago. He completed a three-year sentence in October for sexual assault on a boy aged 13.



Christmas adverts

The Church of England has launched a Christmas poster and radio advertising campaign in 22 counties across England amid internal conflict over the freeing of restrictions on religious advertising on radio and television. A church working party is investigating how to reconcile Christian ethics with the morals of marketing.

Stabbing sentence

A young mother who stabbed a stranger in the street after asking him the time was sentenced yesterday to eight years' detention by the High Court in Edinburgh. Suzanne Craig's victim, Andrew Hop, lost half the blood in his body and nearly died. Craig, 20, asked Mr Hop: "Have you ever been stabbed in public before... would you enjoy it?"

Young drivers polled

Young people may be more aware of the dangers of drink driving than older generations, according to a survey by the Portman Group, which showed 75 per cent of 18 to 25-year-olds would abstain completely before driving. The figures showed 94 per cent would try to prevent others from driving if they thought they were over the limit.

Bottomley hits at GPs who invest savings

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

FAMILY doctors who have refused to pay back huge windfall savings made in the first year of the fund-holding scheme were rebuked yesterday by Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary.

She accused the GPs, who have made savings of up to £280,000 on their budgets for buying drugs and hospital services, of being irresponsible. Many have insisted on keeping the savings to invest in their practices, in some cases increasing the value of premises they own, while health authorities are having to cut back on routine hospital treatment for patients because they are running out of money.

Speaking at the first national conference of GP fund-holders in Birmingham, Mrs Bottomley said some budgets had been set incorrectly. "Regions do not have the right to demand the return of savings and I would be extremely reluctant, frankly, to give them such a right," she said. "But it should equally be clear to us all that the responsible approach for fund-holders is to agree to return any part of their savings which are due to incorrect budget-setting."

GPs are prevented from pocketing the savings directly. They must be invested for the benefit of patients. But they are allowed to set up private companies to hire their own services or those of consultants to provide minor surgery and other specialist treatments, paying themselves the fee.

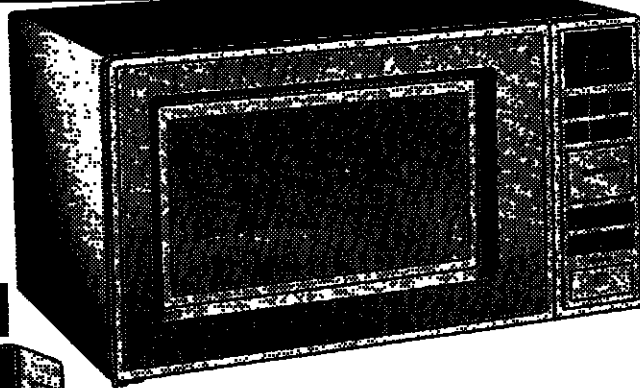
However, a health department official told the conference that this loophole would be closed. "There are real concerns about the accountability and monitoring of private companies, and ministers are looking for alternatives. If you don't have a private company now it is not worthwhile setting one up."

The number of fund-holding practices is expected to double to more than 1,000 next April, and to cover half the population of England by 1995. But Roger Dyson, professor of health care management at the University of Keele, said that most of the growth would come in prosperous areas, leaving a second-class GP service operating in the inner cities.

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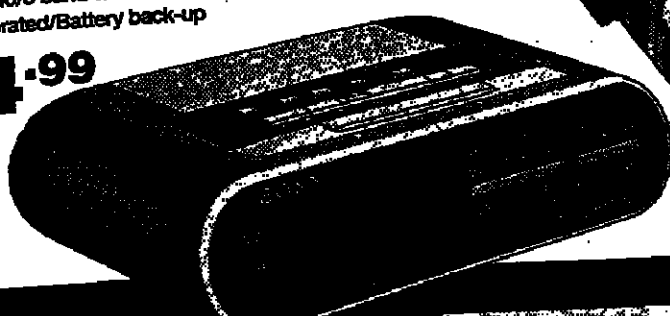
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Fairer North Sea fishing slips through the net

By MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE 24-hour blockade of the Highland harbour of Loch-Inver by Scottish fishermen and the street demonstrations planned by trawlermen for EC heads of government arriving in Edinburgh tomorrow are symptoms of the strains pushing the Community's common fisheries policy (CFP) to the verge of collapse.

Set up ten years ago with the laudable aim of balancing catches with sustainable stocks of fish, the CFP has proved almost as deeply flawed as its more notorious sister, the common agricultural policy.

Each December, EC fisheries ministers meet in Brussels to fix "total allowable catches" (TACs) for more than a hundred species of fish for the coming year. These are divided into catch quotas for each member state. Britain is given around 80 per cent of quotas for the main North Sea species. In 1987, a rapid decline started in stocks of the main North Sea species, including cod and haddock, on which British fishermen depend. This is blamed partly on

Action by irate Scottish crews is helping to push the deeply flawed common fisheries policy to the point of collapse

over-fishing and expansion of fishing fleets, and partly on climatic and environmental changes.

Catch quotas have been drastically pruned. This year, Britain was allocated a catch of 43,220 tonnes of cod and 42,640 tonnes of haddock in the North Sea, compared with 71,000 tonnes and 128,500 tonnes three years earlier.

Competition between fishermen has intensified and illegal landings of over-quota fish have soared, particularly in Scottish ports.

This year Scottish trawlermen over-fished in the early part of the year and ran out of quota about a month ago, while French vessels, who paced themselves more sensibly, are still able to land fish. This has highlighted serious flaws in the TAC system, not least the huge waste of fish it entails. About half the fish caught in the North Sea each year are thrown back dead, a

bizarre consequence of a system supposed to conserve fish stocks.

Most trawlermen fish for more than one species. When a skipper has exhausted his haddock and whiting quota he may still have cod quota left to fish. Any haddock and whiting he hauls in along with the cod cannot legally be landed and has to be thrown out. Almost all discards are dead by the time they are returned to the sea. A 1985 study found that of 960 million haddock caught in the North Sea, 460 million were thrown back dead.

Various ways have been suggested for making TACs less of a blunt instrument and extra conservation measures, such as increasing net mesh size to allow juvenile fish to escape, have been tried. But many experts feel that there are too many vessels chasing too few fish.

EC member states partly

accept this view and have committed themselves to reduce the size of their fishing fleets over the next three years. Britain has promised to cut the tonnage and engine capacity of its fleet by 19 per cent. But these commitments are voluntary. In 1986 Britain undertook to reduce its fleet by 3 per cent by 1991 but actually allowed it to expand by 20 per cent.

Michael Holden, former head of the European Commission's fish conservation unit, believes TACs should be abandoned and unrestricted fishing should be allowed by a much reduced EC fishing fleet. "The best way of controlling the number of boats would be through a licensing system run centrally from Brussels. Licence fees could be used to fund research and the retraining of fishermen made redundant."

The government is pushing through Parliament the Sea Fish (Conservation) Bill which will enable it to limit the number of days British fishermen can spend at sea. Fishermen say that this would leave their waters open for other EC trawlermen to fish.



Woman in a whirl: Melanie Sawyer, 23, swirls into action in a Marks & Spencer dress during rehearsals for the Clothes Show Live, which opens at Earl's Court, London, today. The models will have about 12,000 outfit changes over six days

Bingham confirms decision on Bland

By KATE ALDERSON

THE Court of Appeal yesterday confirmed that doctors should be allowed to switch off Tony Bland's feeding machine, in line with the High Court ruling last month.

Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, said that Mr Bland, 21, who has been in a permanent vegetative state since the Hillsborough stadium disaster more than three and a half years ago, would want to be remembered as a "cheerful, carefree, gregarious teenager and not an object of pity". Sir Thomas said that the court was entitled to make an assessment of Mr Bland's best interests "viewed through his eyes".

The "presumption in favour of life" could therefore be balanced against other factors, such as how Mr Bland would like to be remembered and what he would think of the "constant invasions and humiliations to which his inert body is subject".

The parents of Mr Bland are now only one step away from a final decision on whether their son can "die with dignity", as they have asked.

The case is being taken to the House of Lords next week by the official solicitor appointed by a court to act on Mr Bland's behalf.

Sir Thomas said that he was trying to "look at the matter through Tony's eyes and not my own; I cannot conceive what benefit his continued existence could be thought to give him".

Sir Thomas emphasised that the case was not about euthanasia or about "putting down" the old and infirm, the mentally defective or the physically imperfect. "It has nothing to do with the eugenic practices associated with fascist Germany," he said.

The photograph accompanying a report on December 5 headed "Mussolini grand-daughter seeks cash to buy 11 Duce's home" was not that of the house in which he was born, as the caption incorrectly stated, but one in which he briefly lived at the end of his life.

A report on December 8 headed "BR bribes case collapses" incorrectly stated that Mr Norbert Jurasek and Mr Michael Brooks were former executives of Plasser Railway Machinery (GB) Ltd. In fact they are, and have been throughout the trial in which they were acquitted on the direction of the judge, managing director and company secretary respectively.

The way it isn't



THERE is one detail that haunts me about this year's American presidential election: the musical taste of the Clinton family.

As Bill Clinton is appreciably younger than George Bush, you would expect his musical tastes to hover around the early years of rock and roll, which, in America, means Elvis Presley. But not it is Mr Clinton's mother who is the Elvis fan.

Most Times readers will have grown used to policemen getting younger. But the news that the next president's mother is an Elvis fan means that time is now hopelessly out of kilter with one's expectations.

Any news of the Princess Royal also upsets me. Until quite recently, I considered her far, far older than me, yet the newspapers insist she is still only 42.

Forty-two is the age I will be in seven years' time. Seven years ago I was 28, the princess was at least 47 and the minimum age for a president was 75. Mr Clinton's mum has a lot to answer for.

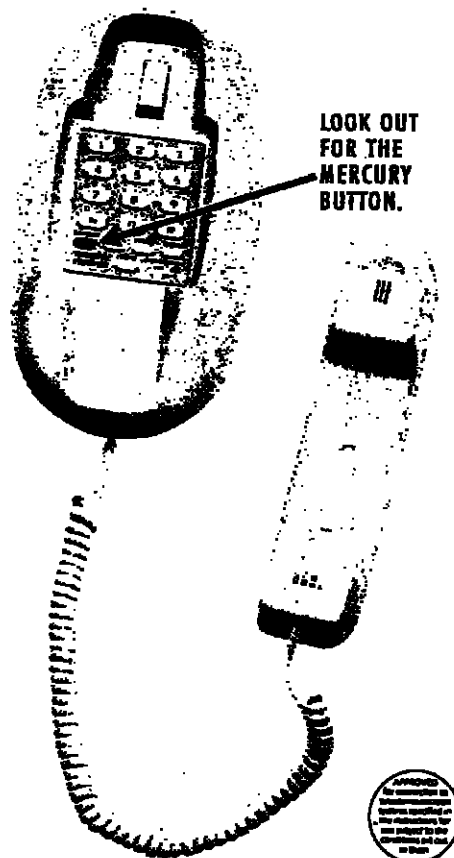
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THE NEW YORK TIMES has reported that the health of the 11-year-old daughter of the late President John F. Kennedy is "not good". The report, which was first published in the newspaper, has caused a great deal of speculation about the health of the young woman.

It is understood that the young woman is suffering from a serious illness, and that her health is a matter of great concern to her family.

The report also mentions that the young woman has been in the hospital for some time, and that her condition is not improving.

It is hoped that the young woman will make a full recovery, and that she will be able to return to her normal life.

The report is a sad one, and it is hoped that the young woman will be able to overcome her illness.

The young woman is a very bright and talented girl, and it is a shame that she is suffering from such a serious illness.

The report is a sad one, and it is hoped that the young woman will be able to overcome her illness.

THE TIMES THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 1992

£1 bn saving promised in fraud crackdown

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PETER Lilley, the social security secretary yesterday outlined details of a crackdown on benefit fraud which he claimed would raise £1 billion next year.

Mr Lilley's latest target — in a programme which is set to double this year's savings — is housing benefit and council tax fraud.

Mr Lilley said that a further £10 million a year would be spent on more modern methods of fraud prevention and detection, including computer systems to cross-check claims.

Mr Lilley told the all-party social security select committee that more than £500 million would be saved from fraud this year. "We hope there will be additional savings from housing benefit and council tax benefit fraud next year. Future savings are expected to be nearer £1 billion."

Mr Lilley also revealed that £85 million worth of stolen or lost order books were cashed every year — a large proportion of the £130 million worth of those reported missing each year. He claimed that gangs went round stealing order books and then cashing them. From next April local authorities will be given extra incentives to investigate benefit fraud by keeping some of the savings made. Next year they will be able to retain 20

per cent of the savings and the following year 17.5 per cent. Subsequently this will drop to 15 per cent.

In evidence to the committee Mr Lilley says that the extra measures, could save the taxpayer £185 million in the first year, in addition to £45 million kept by local authorities.

At present local authorities are only reimbursed 25 per cent for fraudulent payments giving them a disincentive to chase fraudsters. In future local councils will get the full payments back. "This will further encourage local authorities to carry out more fraud work, by removing any unintended arrangements which deter them from identifying fraud," he said.

Mr Lilley told the committee that he would not have been able to uprate all benefits in the Autumn Statement unless he had promised to deliver on fraud. "Without this greater effort we would not have been able to uprate the benefits that we did uprate."

Mr Lilley also gave details on how he expected to save £240 million on invalidity benefit in the next three years. Examining doctors will be asked to provide further details of patients' medical conditions in an attempt to sift out any claimants who are not

eligible for the benefit. About 260,000 people are examined by benefit agency doctors every year out of 1.35 million benefit claimants.

Mr Lilley said that claimants would be given more advance warning before having to attend medical examinations, but he gave a warning that if they failed to provide a good reason for not turning up, they risked being disqualified from benefit. At present 50,000 claimants a year fail to turn up for their medical assessments.

The social security secretary was questioned on how he managed to secure a full uprating of benefits and whether this had been traded for future benefit reforms. Mr Lilley denied that he was planning an overall review of welfare benefits. However, he did not rule out reforms in some areas and suggested that there would be more targeting on poorer groups. "We want to make sure that money goes to the people that Parliament identified it to go to and to see whether the legislative framework needs reviewing to channel it better," he said.

Health department denies 'collusion'

By JILL SHERMAN

THE health department yesterday rallied to the defence of Marion Roe, chairman of the Commons health committee, after MPs accused her of colluding with the department by planning to give ministers advance copies of a committee report on NHS trusts.

The health department did not deny that they would get an early copy but said this was "above board" and provided for under House of Commons standing orders.

The allegations made by Labour MPs on the health committee are now being considered by Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, as possible contempt. Alice Mahon, the Labour MP for Halifax and a member of the committee on health, has submitted a formal complaint to the Speaker — on Miss Boothroyd's instructions — alleging that there was a collusion "at the highest level" between the health committee and the health department.

Yesterday Mrs Roe cited Standing Order 116 of the House of Commons which states that "all select committees have the power to authorise the Clerk of the House to supply copies of their reports to offices of government departments ... not more than 48 hours before the intended time of publication."

The health department

said: "We would agree with the remarks made by Mrs Roe. We don't accept that we have behaved in an improper way. It is provided for in standing orders and is official practice." Ms Mahon said the committee would normally give the report 24 hours in advance to lobby journalists but not to ministers.

Evidence that ministers were expecting to get an early copy came from a health department memo claiming that the department would receive a copy of the committee's report into NHS trusts "a few days before publication". The memo, a copy of which was sent to Ms Mahon anonymously, gave detailed plans of how civil servants and ministers could prepare a quick response if the report was critical. Members of the Tory-dominated committee are said to be divided on the report, which will be published on December 16, and there is likely to be a minority report from Labour MPs.

Ms Mahon has also written to the Commons privileges committee asking it to summon Marion Roe and Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, to explain why health ministers would get advance warning.

The memo, from Jamie Nevin of the ministry's parliamentary unit, is dated December 2 and has been sent to David Lye, head of the NHS Trust unit. Copies have been circulated to health ministers' special advisers and parliamentary private secretaries. Although it predicts a publication day of early January 1993, the memo says: "We shall get confidential advance copies a few days before." Referring to an attached procedural note, it says: "You will see that lines to take will be needed by ministers and the press office as soon as possible before publication. A draft press release may also be needed if the report is hostile."



Mahon: complained to the Speaker

Ministers criticised over power sell-off

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AN INFLUENTIAL Tory-dominated committee of MPs implicitly criticised ministers yesterday by complaining that the 12 regional electricity companies were sold too cheaply.

The Commons public accounts committee said that taxpayers should have benefited from the higher than expected profits made by the companies after the £16.1 billion privatisation.

The committee said: "It is clear that the companies' profit forecasts would also have had a material effect on sale prices and that such forecasts were overly cautious and subject to uncertainties."

"We consider that it would not have been unreasonable for the taxpayer to have shared in the higher than expected profits for the first year."

Officials told the committee that prospects of a Gulf war affected their decisions on the timing and sale prices. But the

committee pointed out that very little electricity was generated by oil.

The MPs also complained that there was no competition for 16 out of the 53 advisers appointed by the department to handle the sale.

In addition they were alarmed at number of small investors who have now sold their shares. The total level of shareholdings had fallen from nine million to three million since flotation, showing that the government had failed to widen and deepen share ownership.

Some 32 per cent of shareholders were tempted by the incentives offered in December 1990 at the time of the sale, the report added.

House of Commons committee of public accounts 16th report: The sale of the 12 regional electricity companies (Stationery Office, £10.75).



Leading from the front Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, launches a report on the contribution of women in the management of health care. The report, which includes case studies of top women managers, is part of the NHS management executive's contribution to the government's Opportunity 2000 programme

Fears of French invasion

By JONATHAN PRYNN

IF THE Channel tunnel was not enough to enrage confirmed little Englanders, the prospect of French-operated train services reaching deep into the heart of London will surely convince them that the entire project is nothing more than a post-Napoleonic plot.

That possibility was raised at yesterday's session of the Commons transport select committee, at which a succession of articulate foreign railwaymen poured scorn on the rail privatisation plans. Claude Boutte, deputy director of the international affairs department of SNCF, the French state rail operator, said the company had more than enough investment projects in France to consider building the link between the tunnel and London. Asked about the possibility of operating the link, his Gallic shrug of a reply was "why not".

Robert Adley, the Tory chairman, said he was becoming very depressed by the contrast between "the high-speed modern link on the French side and the botched-up Victorian railway on the British side".

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Thatcher tells Major to be firm on colony

By SHEILA GUNN AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

BARONESS Thatcher urged John Major yesterday to stand firm against China's threats over the future of Hong Kong when she supported proposals from the governor, Chris Patten, to introduce more democracy into the colony before the 1997 hand-over.

In contrast to her forthright, and unusual, support for the Major government, two former governors criticised Mr Patten's handling of relations with Peking and warned of the long-term dangers for the colony.

Lady Thatcher made it clear that agreement with China was "desirable" to ensure a smooth hand-over in 1997. "But in the last resort... it is Britain which has the responsibility for governing Hong Kong up to 1997," she said in the Lords debate on the future of the colony.

"The best and most helpful stance which we in this House can take is to support the governor, to reiterate our sincere wish to proceed by agreement with China, but make it clear that this cannot be at the expense of what we believe to be right."

She insisted that there was no reason why Mr Patten's proposals should harm relations with China: they were

modest, open to discussion and in line with the joint declaration and the basic law.

Although her relations with Mr Patten were frequently cool when in government, she praised him as a "new, imaginative and competent governor" who had acted with great sensitivity and skill. She also warned Bill Clinton, the American president-elect, not to introduce trade sanctions in protest at human rights abuses in China. "I believe it would be profoundly misguided for an incoming American administration to try to put pressure on China over human rights by restricting trade. That would hit hardest at precisely the wrong people," she said.

In his maiden speech Lord Wilson, the last governor of Hong Kong, made clear his alarm at his successor's stance. He hoped others would put forward alternative proposals for democratic changes in the colony which met with approval in Hong Kong and China. "It cannot be good for Hong Kong or China in the long run to have a long-running dispute of this sort," he said.

The Chinese and British governments were criticised by Baroness Dunn, a senior member of the Hong Kong executive council, for depriving



the people of the colony of a voice in their future. "The people of Hong Kong are faced yet again with paying the price for a dispute which is not of their making. Once again we endure the frustration of standing by helplessly while our affairs are discussed by others," she said.

She said that Mr Patten's proposals had "triggered a barrage of hostile statements and propaganda", instead of forming the basis of dialogue. The result had been investor confidence being shaken, a slump in the stock market and professional people were again considering emigrating.

Hong Kong had to be allowed to choose what was best for itself. "The British and Chinese governments must be prepared to go as far as the community is prepared to go, no further, but no less far," she pressed both countries to "iron out difficulties across the negotiating table, not through loudhailers".

Lord MacLehose of Becho, a former governor of Hong Kong, accused Mr Patten of contravening the spirit of the 1990 agreement between Britain and China. He criticised the governor for making his proposals known via the media rather than through

normal diplomatic channels, although he said that he may have been prompted by frustration at the ineffectiveness of Sino-British relations.

Baroness Chalker, the foreign affairs minister, said it was not the governor's proposals that had unsettled the Hong Kong stock market but China's "increasingly strident propaganda attacks". She agreed with Lord Geddes, who opened the debate, that "the sooner the megaphones are put away the better".

There was no change in the government's desire fully to implement the terms of the 1984 joint declaration and

work closely with the Chinese government "to ensure a smooth transition in Hong Kong", Lady Chalker said.

The governor's proposals for increasing democratic representation for the people of Hong Kong were just that, proposals, she insisted. If the Chinese government objected to them, the most constructive course they could take would be to put forward suggestions of their own. They would have to be made soon as draft legislation would need to be completed early next year or any new arrangements could not be in place for the district board elections in 1994.

Keeping a smile on the tiger's face

Mandarin and kowtow are two of the few Chinese words adopted by English, and both sum up an attitude that successive senior British policy advisers are accused of displaying towards Peking.

Much of the Chinese anger at the proposals for wider democracy in Hong Kong by Chris Patten, the governor, stems from the sharp break in policy this refusal to pay obeisance represents. Since the triumph of Mao Tse-tung's communists in 1949, and especially since the cultural revolution in 1967, Britain has been wary of antagonising a power that has remained both mysterious and, as far as Hong Kong is concerned, directly threatening to British interests.

Successive governments, conscious of the dangers of blurring into decisions whose hidden consequences could be disastrous, have relied heavily on the small pool of people who can offer expert advice: the China hands. These are mostly high-flying career diplomats, but the Foreign Office has also been influenced by distinguished academics.

Regional experts are involved in policy-making in all areas, but few identify with their field as closely as the China-watchers, or make as many allowances for different standards and ways of thinking. Few indeed — except perhaps the Arabists — are as frequently accused of going native.

China demands an unusual dedication and intensity. The language alone can take four years to master. Those who break through into the Chinese — and, in addition, communist — mindset feel impelled to explain Chinese actions in this context, and make allowances for it.

Two things have increased the influence of China experts over the past 30 years: the cultural revolution and the end of the British empire. The burning of the British embassy in Peking in 1967 was a traumatic event for the Foreign Office. It reinforced the belief that Britain could not deal with an angry China. It may also have convinced some that such thuggish behaviour was so extreme that there was no point in a confrontational approach to China, as the Chinese were always ready to go to extremes. This explains why some sinologists are regarded as appeasers.

The end of empire elsewhere in the world meant the influence of colonial administrators with region-

Much of the Chinese anger at proposals for wider democracy in Hong Kong stems from the refusal to pay obeisance, writes Michael Binyon

al expertise was diminished in the Foreign Office — except over Hong Kong. Not only did this remaining colony's affairs become relatively more visible, but the vulnerability of Hong Kong to China was increasingly exposed, for this was the only colony not heading for independence but for a return to a country which already controlled its food and water lifelines.

Not all drew the conclusion that China must be handled with special care. Derek Davies, a former editor of *The Far East Economic Review*, says the insistence by Sir David Trench, the governor of Hong Kong during the cultural revolution, not to release detained leftwing extremists despite Foreign Office pleadings did not, in the end, cause the colony any harm. Peking finally retreated from its threats.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, who trained as a China expert and learnt Mandarin, also appears to have drawn an early conclusion that a firm stand pays off. In his novel *The Smile on the Face of the Tiger* published in the early 1970s he showed how China could be confronted. As foreign secretary he has supported Mr Patten: his close relationship with the prime minister may also explain Mr Major's decision to take a more robust attitude to China than Mrs Thatcher.

The former prime minister was impressed by Sir Percy Cradock, the man most identified as the opponent of Mr Patten's policies, precisely because she saw him as tough and a man who negotiated with skill, getting the best deal for Britain over Hong Kong. Sir Percy has insisted that he advocates a policy most likely to achieve the results Britain wants, both in Hong Kong and in bilateral relations.

But opponents of the line he and other sinologists have taken say that events have moved on and the experts have not kept pace. They say the collapse of communism and the other changes in 1990 and 1991 have meant that the Chinese themselves are now under pressure: there is no need therefore for British policy to accommodate itself to the view in Peking.



Racial violence attacked

A measure to outlaw racist violence gained an unopposed formal first reading in the Commons yesterday. David Winnick, the Labour MP for Walsall North, introduced the racial violence bill, which would specifically make racial violence a criminal offence.

He said that in Britain there had been an alarming increase in violence, with at least four murders arising from racist attacks during the past year. "Thugs are thugs, regardless of colour, nationality or religion," he said. Mr Winnick's 10-minute rule bill has little chance of becoming law because of lack of time.

Portrait back

The portrait of Baroness Thatcher at Westminster, on which a Hitler moustache appeared recently, has been restored and rehung, Ray Powell, chairman of the Commons accommodation and works committee, said.

TV cost rises

A colour TV licence will cost £83 from next April, Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, said. The rise is based on the increase on the September RPI. A black and white licence will be £27.50.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Treasury: prime minister. Debate on coastal protection and planning. Lords (3): Agriculture bill, committee, second day.

Fishermen warned of low stocks

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

The government will do everything possible to protect the fishing industry at next week's talks in Brussels and will oppose "unnecessary and inappropriate" EC proposals which would keep cod and haddock fishing boats tied up in harbour for ten days a month, Sir Hector Monro said in the Commons last night.

However, Sir Hector, the Scottish agriculture and fisheries minister, said there needed to be close attention paid to conservation. Apart from haddock stocks, he said, "the general picture continues to be very worrying". There were several species whose allowable catches could not be increased.

Opening the annual Commons debate on the fishing industry, Sir Hector referred to protests by Scottish fishermen against rules governing their catches. "We are well aware of the protests that have been going on in Lochinver and the Firth of Forth today and we understand them. But at the same time the fishermen must understand our difficulty in conceding more fish than conservation will permit."

For the Opposition, Gavin Strang protested at the "crisis" in the fishing industry, saying: "Prices have been low, quotas have been fished out, boats have been standing idle." He accused the government of having failed the fishermen.

"The blockade at Lochinver is a timely manifestation of the frustration which now exists in the industry. Nobody in the Labour party wants to see action of this nature. But the incident does reflect the all-time low to which relations have fallen."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Greeks to rally over Macedonia

Athens: More than a million Greeks will march through Athens today in a last appeal to the European Community not to recognise the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia under that name, despite a growing feeling that the battle might already be lost (Chris Elliott writes).

The Greek government announced yesterday that it was resolved to veto anything at this week's Edinburgh summit that diverged from the Lisbon decision. British diplomats in Athens indicated they expected the summit to defer a decision so as not to offend Greece or weaken the government of Constantine Mitsotakis, already rocked by a series of cabinet resignations.

But this will result in the issue moving to the United Nations, where Greece is unlikely to succeed in blocking recognition of Macedonia.

Aid flights delayed, page 14

Farmers march on The Hague

The Hague: About 600 Dutch farmers protesting against the agriculture accord between the European Community and the United States marched through the city centre of The Hague yesterday to the parliament yesterday to present a petition to Ruud Lubbers, the prime minister.

The farmers had gathered with more than 400 tractors about 12 miles outside the city, but riot police prevented them from driving in. No violence was reported. A delegation of four farmers was allowed to meet Mr Lubbers on condition the protest remained peaceful. (AP)

Swiss elect Ogi

Bern: The Swiss parliament elected Adolf Ogi, the transport and energy minister, to Switzerland's rotating presidency, replacing René Felber, the foreign minister, the federal chancellor announced. Mr Ogi, a committed pro-European, was elected by 208 votes in the 246-member parliament. (Reuters)

French long to break free from Bonn alliance

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

AS PRESIDENT Mitterrand prepares for the Edinburgh summit, doubts are being voiced increasingly across France over the future of his vision of a grand, quasi-federal Europe.

Philippe Séguin, the lugubrious Gaullist who opposed the Maastricht treaty, surveyed the unhappy landscape of Europe the other day and mused: "France voted 'yes' but we're getting everything they said would happen if we voted no." He was referring to what most ardent pro-Maastricht campaigners had predicted in a Europe without the treaty—

tion in Paris over Bonn's failure to support its rejection of the EC-US farm accord.

With Britain and other states devaluing their currencies and trying to stimulate their economies, French businessmen are talking openly of the disadvantages of their country's lock-step march with the deflationary deutschmark. For the same reason, M Séguin and his fellow dissenters in Jacques Chirac's RPR party, want the conservative government they expect to win the next election to end the policy of the *franc fort*. Unhitching the franc from the mark would not only jeopardise monetary union but would scupper hopes of a single currency.

The turmoil in Eastern Europe, violence in Germany and the Galt quarrel have weakened France's traditional fears of its eastern neighbour, fostering a popular go-it-alone sentiment similar to that found in Britain. A poll last week showed a majority would now vote against Maastricht.

As well as the farmers, who enjoy 80 per cent public support in their anger against the other Community governments, some industrialists are uneasy over the free trade philosophy, not just of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), but of the Community itself. Renault and Peugeot-Citroën, the car-makers, are nervous over imminent competition from British-built Japanese imports.

Alain Gomez, the head of Thomson-SA, the state-owned electronics group, is urging the government to abandon GATT altogether in favour of a protected European trade zone that can combat American and Japanese pressure.

Some commentators are pointing out this week that if the Swiss wanted nothing of



Chilly outlook: François Mitterrand at Maastricht a year ago. Today he is a far more isolated figure, both on the European stage and at home in France

the European trade area, it may be because they recognise that the single Community market and the Maastricht idea of a west European union is outmoded.

Officials in M Mitterrand's entourage say Europe is a scapegoat for many of France's internal uncertainties and that the Community will survive and emerge stronger from its travails. France is going through one of the protectionist moods which

appear in times of crisis. Elisabeth Guigou, the European affairs minister, said this week: "A retreat behind national frontiers or the construction of Europe as a closed fortress would be very damaging to our interests."

Mme Guigou says she expects Britain to ratify the Maastricht treaty in the spring. France's partners, she said, have a strong interest in helping it meet its objections to the farm accord. She listed

as precedents the generous gestures accorded in recent years to other community members: to Margaret Thatcher over the British budget contribution in the early 1980s, financial aid to the southern members and the effort to bring East Germany into the Community.

"We are now asking other member states to understand our problems," she said. "That's what the Community is all about."

Danish opposition spurns treaty deal

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

In the run-up to the Edinburgh summit, Denmark is curiously divided. While most people are preoccupied with Christmas shopping, politicians are passionately wrangling over the country's future role in the European Community.

On the eve of the EC foreign ministers' meeting earlier this week, at which Denmark's fate in Europe was discussed, state television news included a long feature on Danish "Euro-apathy", increasing nationalism and apparent lack of interest in Brussels and Europe.

The latest chapter in the political dispute over the Maastricht treaty, which Danes rejected in a June referendum, is focused on Britain's proposals to solve Denmark's deadlock over European union, unveiled by John Major last week. Denmark's own proposals, presented last month, call for the country to continue as a full EC member while opting out of those aspects of the treaty which irk most Danes — plans for a common currency, a joint EC defence policy, EC citizenship and co-ordinated legal co-operation.

Mr Major's proposal for accommodating the Danes met most of these requirements. It was discussed in Tuesday by the foreign ministers and will feature high on the agenda at Edinburgh.

While Poul Schlüter, the Danish prime minister, accepted the prime minister's proposals as "a good starting point for negotiations on a solution to Denmark's Maastricht problem", the opposition Socialist People's party ruled them out as "unacceptable" on the ground that they did not distance Denmark sufficiently from the concept of European union. The party also believes that they do not allow new applicants for EC membership the choice of joining the Community on the basis

of the Danish opt-out provisions.

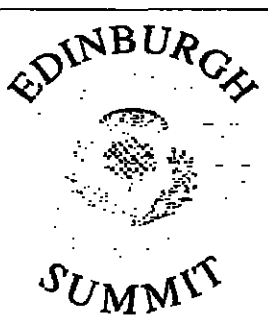
Holger Nielsen, leader of the left-wing Socialist People's party, one of the main groups behind the "national compromise" deal, said: "If any new arrangement does not clearly distance Denmark from participation in European political union, we will not support it and the country will vote it down in a fresh referendum. Foreign minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen must go out and fight for the national compromise and not try to get us into the union we rejected in June through the back door."

The continuing clashes between the opposition and Mr Ellemann-Jensen, a Liberal and passionate European, have stirred fears of premature elections in Denmark if no early solution to its Maastricht dilemma is found. "The foreign minister must negotiate on the basis of the national compromise," said Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, leader of Denmark's largest opposition group, the Social Democratic party.

"To talk of calling elections during what is Denmark's greatest political crisis since the second world war would be totally irresponsible," he added. "Edinburgh is not a make-or-break situation, if we don't get a satisfactory deal there, we will just go on negotiating until we do," he said.

The Danish government hopes to hold a fresh referendum next spring or autumn on a new special deal with Europe and has said a solution at Edinburgh would allow time for the passage of the necessary parliamentary legislation prior to the plebiscite.

A recent opinion poll in *Børsen*, the financial daily newspaper, showed that 45 per cent of Danes would vote in favour of a new deal with Europe based on the national compromise, with 38 per cent opposed.



trouble with Germany, isolation and upheaval within the Community.

Physically ailing and faced with the high probability of an opposition government in three months, M Mitterrand looks as isolated a figure at home as he is now on the European stage, which he strode with such confidence only months ago.

There is pessimism even in high political circles over the alliance with Bonn, the driving force of the Community since it was founded and the basis of France's claim to the status of a great power.

M Mitterrand's traditional pledges of unity with Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, when they met last Friday rang hollow, given the frustra-

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Gaidar underpins Yeltsin's authority

FROM ANNE MURPHY

Yeltsin's dramatic move to dismiss the prime minister and replace him with Gaidar, a former Soviet minister of finance, has been widely seen as a signal of the president's determination to assert his authority over the government. Gaidar, who has been a key figure in the reform of the Russian economy, is seen as a strong supporter of Yeltsin's policies. His appointment is seen as a move to consolidate Yeltsin's position as the dominant figure in Russian politics.

Clinton to let budget advisers

FROM ANNE MURPHY

President Clinton is expected to let his budget advisers recommend a budget that would allow for a significant increase in spending on social programs, including education and health care. This move is seen as a signal of Clinton's commitment to social reform and his willingness to challenge the conservative budgetary policies of the previous administration.

No-Nazi curbs

FROM ANNE MURPHY

The German government has rejected calls for tighter controls on the activities of neo-Nazi groups, arguing that such measures would be a violation of the country's commitment to human rights and democratic values. The government insists that the legal system should handle any criminal activities of these groups.

Farrow's story

FROM ANNE MURPHY

The story of the investigation into the activities of the Farrow family, who were accused of running a large-scale operation to defraud the British government, has been widely reported in the media. The investigation revealed a complex web of financial transactions and a lack of transparency in the family's dealings.

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Gaidar snub undermines Yeltsin's authority

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Congress of People's Deputies yesterday dealt a severe blow to President Yeltsin's authority, and the country's radical economic reforms, by rejecting Yegor Gaidar, his candidate for the post of prime minister.

Mr Gaidar's candidacy was rejected by a 19-vote margin in a secret ballot in which he needed a simple majority of the 140 deputies to win. The defeat came despite substantial concessions from Mr Yeltsin giving the conservative parliament the right of veto over his four key ministerial appointments. It rounds off a damaging Congress in which conservatives, feeding on the government's economic woes, have dominated key issues.

Th failure to have Mr

Gaidar confirmed in the post he has held in an acting capacity since June deepens the troubles of the Yeltsin government and is likely to slow down the country's transition from a command to a market economy. Aleksandr Shokhin, a deputy prime minister, responded to the news by saying that he and other liberals in the government were "itching to resign" but that no decision had been reached on the government's response.

Mr Gaidar, however, said later that the government should stay in office for the time being and carry on calmly. He said: "The result of the vote is no surprise to us, we did not have any illusions about our popularity at the Congress."

He added that the narrow margin reflected the attitude of the entire population to reforms. "One cannot say that the whole of the Russian people treats the results of our government's work with deep approval. Half support reforms while the other half does not and we have more work to do in convincing that half."

The setback is likely to increase Mr Yeltsin's hostility to Congress, which has consistently failed to support his reforms, and he may well feel that it is time to begin gathering the million signatures needed for a referendum on abolishing the assembly entirely. He has even spoken of bypassing the constitution and dissolving Congress by decree if its intransigence makes it a threat to reform.

Mr Yeltsin must now decide whether to struggle on with Mr Gaidar in the post of acting prime minister, at some cost to the authority of the cabinet, or find a compromise candidate for the job. The first indications from the Yeltsin camp were that the president intended to retain him as acting prime minister until the next session of Congress in March.

But Mr Gaidar's position has undoubtedly been weakened by the vote and it is likely that alternative reform strategies will now be pressed on Mr Yeltsin. Arkadi Volsky, founder member of the centre-right Civic Union and a possible challenger for Mr Gaidar's post, said that the government's problems had sprung from the excessive influence of the acting prime minister and his free market philosophy over its economic policies.

Leading article, page 19

Growing unrest forces Delhi parliament to adjourn

By CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN DELHI AND
OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE death toll in three days of religious confrontation in India rose to more than 600 yesterday as the army helped police and paramilitary forces maintain curfews in scores of cities.

In Delhi, parliament broke up in pandemonium as delegates made an unprecedented decision to adjourn for a week to return to their homes to try to stop the unrest.

The violence engulfed Bombay, India's commercial capital, for a third consecutive day, taking the death toll there to 115.

Almost every Muslim quarter of larger cities across the country is under curfew, and there is hardship among people too poor to stockpile food. Muslims in Delhi took to their rooftops in protest while police forces patrolled the streets yesterday selling milk and basic commodities in an attempt to ease tensions.

In Bangladesh, five people were killed in communal violence, including three children burnt alive when their house was set on fire by Muslim mobs.



Crying out loud: Hindu and Muslim women pleading for help from soldiers during a protest march yesterday in a Bombay shanty town

NEWS BRIEFS

Clinton to list budget advisers

Washington: Bill Clinton, the US president-elect, is expected to name today his economic team as well as confirming Lloyd Bentsen as Treasury secretary, he is expected to name Leon Panetta, House budget committee chairman, as his budget director, and Robt Rubin, an investment banker, as head of his economic security council.

Mr Clinton is also expected to appoint a woman as attorney-general. The leading candidates are said to be Judge Patricia Wald, Judge Amalya Kear, Judge Judith Kaye, and Myer Brooksky Born.

No-Nazi curbs

Bonn: The German government decided to ask the Supreme Court to curb the civil rights of two leading neo-Nazis, Thomas Dienes, the leader of the German National party, and Heinz Reiss, removing their freedom of expression and right of assembly.

Farrow's story

New York: Mia Farrow, the actress, has agreed to sell her autobiography to publisher Bantam Doubleday Dell, reportedly for \$3 million (£1.38 million). The deal is seen as her latest against Woody Allen, the film-maker and her former lover.

Youths shot on intifada anniversary

FROM BEN LYNFIELD
IN BEIT SAHOUR, WEST BANK

ISRAELI soldiers shot dead a teenager yesterday, on the fifth anniversary of the Palestinian uprising. Another was shot the evening before.

A 17-year-old youth was shot dead near Jenin, on the West Bank, after hurling a petrol bomb at security forces, army officers said. Hazem Urboun, 18, was killed in Beit Sahour, south of Jerusalem, on Tuesday night. Troops opened fire on him after ordering him to halt, believing that he was a member of a "terrorist gang", an army spokesman said. Relatives said he was shot without warning from close range by soldiers who disguised themselves as Arabs.

Palestinians throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip observed a general strike to mark the anniversary, closing shops and schools.

In the Gaza Strip, where the uprising began, more than 400,000 residents were confined to their homes for the second day as troops swept the area for Muslim fundamentalist gunmen who shot dead three soldiers on Monday. Navy boats patrolled the coast, enforcing a ban on sea traffic. In Beit Sahour, the army ordered a curfew.

In Washington, a Palestinian peace negotiator announced a one-day halt to the talks to mark the anniversary.

100 killed as Afghan troops clash with militia

FROM REUTER
IN KABUL

FORMER communist militia arriving in the Afghan capital to reinforce their positions clashed with government forces in four days of fighting, but the defence ministry said yesterday that a ceasefire had

begun to take hold. About 100 people have been killed and hundreds injured since the fighting erupted between the Shura-i-Nazar group of Ahmad Shah Masood, the defence minister, and the Shia Muslim Hezb-i-Wahadat party.

Earlier reports from United

Nationssources in the city said a coup could be under way as large numbers of militia fighters moved on to the streets, and rockets landed around the defence ministry and presidential palace.

The fighting was the worst since August when Gulbuddin Hekmatyar pounded Kabul

for three weeks with rocket fire that killed 2,500 people and injured thousands.

□ Tashkent: Refugees fleeing the civil war in Tajikistan are dying in freezing weather on the border with Afghanistan. Vitali Grisun, a Russian general, said yesterday.

He said about 20,000 Tajik

refugees had crossed into Afghanistan in the past two weeks but 100,000 are stranded along the frontier with only Russian border guards to help them. "Some have makeshift tents made from blankets but many have nothing. A lot of them are dying every day in freezing cold."



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Rifkind rules out armed intervention

Sarajevo aid flights halted for ninth day

By RICHARD BEESTON IN SPLIT AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

SARAJEVO'S link with the outside world, its road to the airport, reopened yesterday morning, but aid flights remained suspended, exacerbating the supply shortages in the Bosnian capital.

As Britain and other Western powers debated military intervention to stop the conflict in the former Yugoslav republic, Nato sources were reported as saying that the organisation had drawn up plans for use if the United Nations approves the enforcement of the "no-fly" zone over Bosnia, air strikes against Serbian targets or the deployment of peacekeepers in troubled areas such as Kosovo.

However, Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, ruled out military intervention as a means of halting the civil war and emphasised that British forces in Bosnia should remain at their present strength and conduct purely humanitarian missions.

Speaking after a two-day inspection of British troops in

central Bosnia and meetings with UN relief officials, Mr Rifkind said he was more convinced than ever that the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina could not be ended peacefully by a foreign force. "What I have seen reinforces the judgment that it would be most unwise to use UN forces to bring this conflict to an end," he said at a press conference on board the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship *Argus* in Split. "No-one I have met believes it could be done by the UN without a huge increase in force for an indefinite period of time," he added.

In Sarajevo yesterday, a shell hit the Holiday Inn, where many of the foreign press corps are based. There was some damage to the building but no casualties. Heavy shelling continued north of the capital, at Zuc hill, a Muslim-held area, and Buca Potok. In general, however, the city was quiet.

In Geneva, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb lead-

er, accused government forces of provoking the latest fighting to put pressure on the UN for military intervention.

A spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said ten UNHCR lorries carrying 150 tonnes of relief supplies for the 380,000 people trapped in the capital had arrived from Vitez, about 60 miles to the north. The UNHCR hopes to send two more convoys to Sarajevo today, but a United Nations protection force source said the airport, closed to relief flights for the past nine days, was not likely to open until Monday at the earliest.

London: Calls for greater armed intervention in Bosnia were made yesterday at the launch of an all-party group of MPs, peers and scholars. Action for Bosnia called for the end of the UN arms embargo against Bosnia and the creation of UN safe havens in Bosnian-held territory.

Leading article, page 19



Package tour: Milan Panic, the Yugoslav prime minister, hands out packets of sweets to refugee children in Serbia. Yesterday the Supreme Court cleared the way for him to stand in the Serbian presidential elections

Court lets Panic run for election

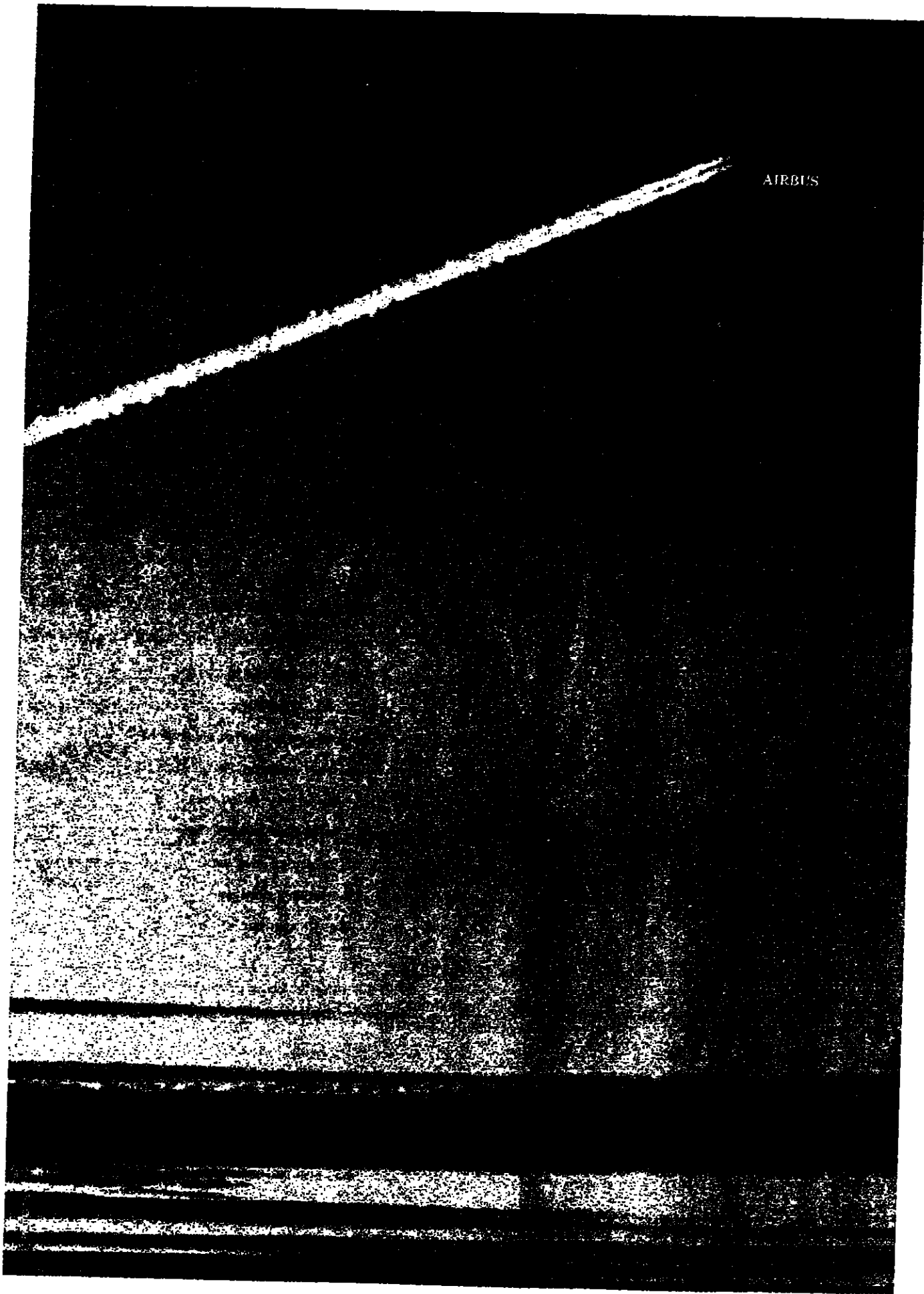
FROM JOVAN KOVACH IN BELGRADE

SERBIA'S supreme court yesterday finally allowed Milan Panic, the moderate Yugoslav prime minister, to run against Slobodan Milosevic Serbia's hardline president, in elections scheduled for December 20. Mr Panic immediately challenged Mr Milosevic to a debate on state-run television. "This will ensure the Serbian people can judge the candidates fairly," he said.

The court upheld Mr Panic's appeal against a ruling by the Serb electoral commission on December 5 that he could not run because he had not been resident in Serbia for at least a year. He returned to Serbia from California earlier this year. The Supreme Court's decision is binding and Mr Panic has been officially included in the list of candidates.

Mr Panic forecasts victory despite starting late and receiving unfavourable coverage on state-run television, which has openly sided with Mr Milosevic. Polls saw Mr Panic leading with 44 per cent against Mr Milosevic's 40.3 per cent. (Reuters)

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ACHIEVEMENT HAS A NAME

Dubrovnik yearns for tourist revival

By RICHARD BEESTON

THE hard-pressed inhabitants of Dubrovnik are eagerly awaiting the arrival today of the first passenger flight in 15 months, as a sign that the city's once thriving tourist industry will make a comeback in the new year.

Although the heavily over-subscribed Croatian airlines flight, the first of three weekly flights from the capital Zagreb, will mainly be carrying journalists and VIPs, there is a palpable sense that the walled medieval port city is set to reclaim its title as the jewel of the Adriatic.

"The arrival of the plane means that we are back to normality, back to peace," said Vesna Gamulin, one of 70,000 citizens who braved the worst of last autumn's Serbian siege and are confident the city can rebuild.

Although the fighting in most of Croatia stopped months ago, the hundreds of thousands of tourists, mainly from Italy and Germany, who used to drive or sail down the Dalmatian coast each year have been put off returning, probably by daily television pictures of fierce fighting in nearby Bosnia-Herzegovina.

So far only the most determined tourists have ventured back, foremost among them thousands of Christian pilgrims determined to witness the regular sightings of the Virgin Mary at Mejugorje, a few miles northwest of Dubrovnik. The only other foreign visitors, aside from journalists and aid workers, are the curious or those with a sentimental attachment. "Some people, who returned here year after year on their holidays, have come back to show support," said Ms Gamulin. "One visitor from Belgium even returned to Slano (north of Dubrovnik) with enough glass to repair all the town's broken windows."

Even Dubrovnik's most optimistic residents admit that the city still has a long way to go before it can attract the large numbers of pre-war holidaymakers, whom it would be impossible to accommodate properly today.

Many of the main hotels in the centre of town are occupied by refugees from dying areas whose homes were destroyed by the Serbs. Many vital repairs to the city's monuments and other main tourist sights have still not been completed.

Nevertheless, Ivan



Former glory: the port city before the war

Misatich, Croatian airlines sales manager, who organised the reopening of flights to Dubrovnik, is confident that the ancient city will bounce back on its feet. "We made a point of having our own stand at the international travel fair in London three weeks ago so let people know that we were back in business and that it was safe to visit Croatia," he said. He added that trips from Britain to the Dalmatian coast were being handled by the city named Phoenix travel company.

'I would go hungry for a week for a gun'

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN ZENICA, BOSNIA

For Samir Bidic, the 25-year-old son of a Zenica — such as they are — remain far out of reach. Compared to nearby Travnik, however, the town is an oasis of peace and plenty.

Market stalls are piled high with fresh fruit and bananas, Richard Gere and Julia Roberts star in *Pretty Woman* at the local cinema. Armed soldiers control access at mined checkpoints, but Zenica is out of reach of Serb artillery.

Together with more than 600 Bosnian refugees Samir, 25, lives in a nearby school, fed twice a day on a diet of mostly rice and spaghetti. As European Community leaders prepare to discuss immigration at the Edinburgh summit, the victims of Europe's worst refugee crisis since the second world war are bitter about the West's failure to come to their aid.

"The people here deserve to go somewhere else. Unless the West takes them in they will be the new nomads of Europe," said Samir. He arrived in Zenica

after being held at Keraterm, a Serb detention camp.

"The main thing is to stop the arms embargo. I would go hungry for a week to have a gun. Turkey and the Muslim countries are doing more than the West for us," he said. "If Bosnia is divided and we are only left with a small part, we will have a liberation organisation and I will join it, that's 100 per cent certain."

The scene inside the school's sports hall is one all too familiar across former Yugoslavia. The air is warm and stale, the smell of unwashed bodies mingling with disinfectant fumes.

"We want to go anywhere, as long as we don't have to stay here," said Aida, a mother of five in her thirties whose husband is held in a Serb-run camp. "The EC give us promises but they don't do much. I don't know why the West won't take more refugees, but I feel betrayed. If they don't find a place for us, they might as well kill us."

John Major is not the only one with problems — as statesmen gather in Edinburgh, Roger Boyes reports on others with a home audience to please

Leaders on a summit of discontent



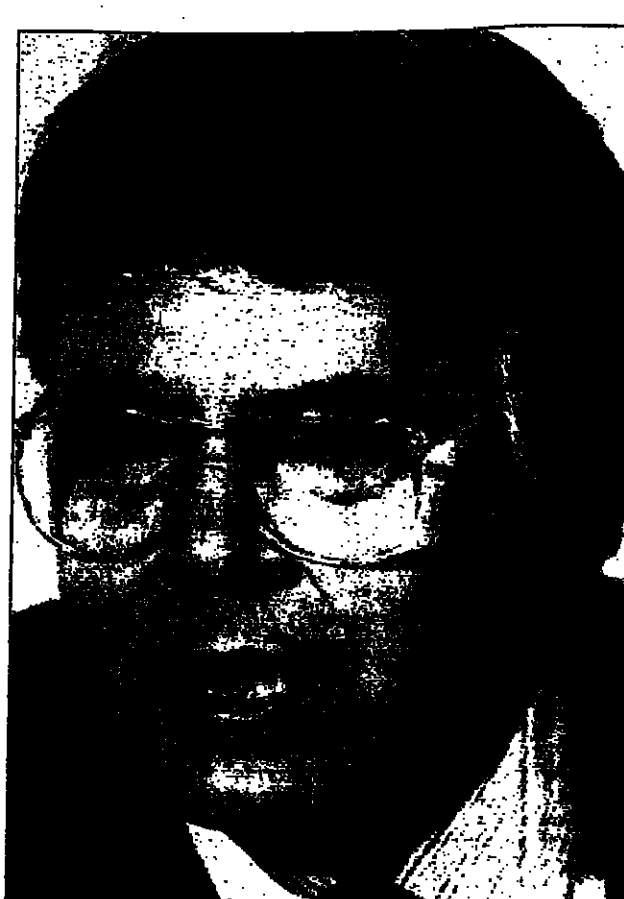
President François Mitterrand, at 76, is the oldest of Europe's leaders, the one head of state to have been decisively influenced by the second world war and the post-war rebuilding of the Continent. He regards Maastricht as his final, crowning achievement on Europe and will block any serious attempt to dilute it at Edinburgh. Mitterrand's popularity ratings are at their lowest point ever and whether the French will appreciate such obstinacy remains to be seen. He has not made curing unemployment his top priority — saying that it is growing far faster in Germany and Britain — despite polls that show it to be the most pressing issue for a large number of ordinary French people. He has two and a half years of his term left to run and they may be the toughest phase of his presidency.



Poul Schlüter, the 63-year-old prime minister of Denmark, is being pushed hard by the opposition Social Democrats, the largest single party in parliament, on the opt-out clauses. Denmark wants assurances that it can stay outside any future monetary union, that it will not be entangled in defence issues and that it can continue to deny voting rights to non-Danes living in Denmark. Unless he can secure these concessions, Mr Schlüter runs the real risk of having Maastricht rejected again. A No vote at the second referendum would be a damaging personal blow for him and would fatally compromise Denmark's imminent presidency of the EC. Mr Schlüter is a shrewd politician but as one commentator put it recently, "The Danes love to cock a snook at their leaders."



Chancellor Helmut Kohl does have a vision of a more closely integrated Europe, but ordinary Germans are no longer quite so sure. There is a majority in the opinion polls against a single European currency replacing the Deutschmark, while German businessmen are becoming sceptical about the effects of the single market on the economy. Polls give 62-year-old Herr Kohl an approval rating as low as 35 per cent — not enough to form a government should an election be held now. But his term runs till 1994, by which time he will have served 12 years in office, and he intends to sit out the joint crises of Europe and the economy. His priority at Edinburgh will be to demonstrate to ordinary Germans that a deeper commitment to Europe spells more growth, and more jobs.



Felipe González, Spain's prime minister, has been ten years in power and is still only 50 years old. But he is looking distinctly shaky. A general election is expected next year, and he needs to demonstrate that the Socialist government can deliver European aid and jobs. Corruption scandals have sapped the authority of the government; unemployment has risen over 10 per cent; the glitter of the "Year of Spain" (the Barcelona Olympics and the World Expo) has all but worn off. Domestic pressure to produce results, to show that Europe pays, will make Señor González the most vociferous spokesman of the poorer countries at Edinburgh. He is one of the most determined of the summiters and will be pushing above all for a doubling of EC aid to the poorer members.

Something is obviously amiss when European diplomats yearn for the days of Mrs Thatcher. Then, say these otherwise unimpeachable Euro-optimists, "we at least knew where we stood".

Indeed, Mrs Thatcher concentrated continental minds; it was the kind of unity displayed by a family meeting to deal with the wayward relative.

Now, almost every European state is having its awkward moments. The popular consensus on a joint European future has crumbled. Electorates unhappy with their leaders' mismanagement of the economy are transferring their dissatisfaction to the European blueprint for the 1990s. The selling of Maastricht has come to seem like a conspiracy of the political class and leaders often compound the problem with their failure of nerve, their inability to persuade or explain. Where are the Schumans, the Monnetts and the Adenauers of the 1950s?

The economic malaise is at the core of the problem. Steering a country through enduring recession demands extraordinary leadership. Yet the past two years have stolen from, rather than added to, the authority of premiers and presidents. Recessions point up the inability of governments to cure long-term unemployment while the globalisation of financial markets has exposed the state's inability to control monetary flows.

The impotence is acutely felt in Germany. Liberal asylum rules, exploited by 400,000 refugees already this year, have sapped Chancellor Helmut Kohl. What kind of state is it that cannot determine who should and should not live within its frontiers? The neo-Nazis have seized on this helplessness.

But Chancellor Kohl is not alone. All the European leaders are having trouble with their electorates. It is a mark of the fractured communication channel between leaders and led, that politicians could express such utter and apparently genuine amazement when they were given a rough ride over Maastricht ratification.

President François Mitterrand only just scraped home in his referendum, the Danish prime minister Poul Schlüter's European vote was won by the "No", Chancellor Kohl was buffeted in the Bundestag.

The intertwining of two issues — the perceived mismanagement of the economy and the ceding of large chunks of sovereignty to Brussels — has made the current generation of leaders extremely vulnerable at home. Unemployment has topped 10 per cent in Britain, France, Spain and Italy. Industrial output figures are bleak everywhere, most disturbingly so in Germany.

The popular response has been to press governments for programmes tailored to national problems, to give protectionist policies precedence over free trade, to justify every step in terms of jobs.

Italy is exceptional in that the European Community has always been seen as a force for good, a tool to modernise the country, to haul it out of the southern poverty belt. This vision has endured and Maastricht was shoed ewed

through the Italian parliament with only token questioning.

But there is a deep disillusion with the old political class, the original architects of Italy's European policies. Even Spain's Felipe González, at 50, no longer the bright wonder-kind of the Mediterranean, is having to justify his commitment to Europe with a long list of domestically inspired demands. Along with Portugal, Greece and Ireland, Señor González is pressing hard for the Delors plan which would double regional aid over seven years.

Britain, Germany, The Netherlands and Italy support spending that would boost aid by only 60 per cent. The Edinburgh summit will thus present a spectacle of leaders desperately playing to their



John Major has been moulded by the Thatcher years and the market revolution of the 1980s

home audiences. Most European summits have an element of this but at some stage an appeal is usually made to a mysterious, faintly pagan Spirit of the Community and electoral considerations are briefly set aside.

It is difficult to see how this particular brand of black magic will work in Edinburgh if only because the two key players — President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl — are in such deep trouble.

The original Franco-German partnership that was the cornerstone of the Community has been changed beyond recognition by the collapse of communism and the unification of Germany and the two leaders have come up with a timetable for a federal Europe that is out of touch with the world.

The atomisation of society is a feature of recession-politics. French farmers and German farmers made common cause against the Gatt deal, while French and German industrialists pleaded for free trade. Where, then, is the common Franco-German interest? It had to be defined by the two leaders, who have done nothing of the sort.

The weakness of these two leaders is the basic reason for the European drift. President

Mitterrand is 76 and debilitated by prostate cancer. Yet he has another two and a half years of his seven-year term to serve. He faces tough parliamentary elections in March which will certainly saddle him with a right wing premier. Rural France, *la France profonde*, remains the formidable obstacle to intelligent European reform. Mitterrand is an old fox, still capable of taking risks — the referendum on Maastricht, the lightning visit to Sarajevo — but this is mostly theatre, not the substance of leadership.

Chancellor Kohl, too, is growing tired in office. In 1989, he quickly understood how he could mark down his role in history: as the first Chancellor of a modern unified Germany, a Bismarck for the 1990s. But he made cardinal mistakes and is now paying for them. The economic costs of unification were underestimated and so, too, was the psychological and social upheaval of integrating a post-totalitarian society. He behaved as if Europe could carry on as before with a swollen, unstable Germany. There is a verse by the Russian poet Anna Akhmatova that captures his dilemma: "... the past is rotting in the future —

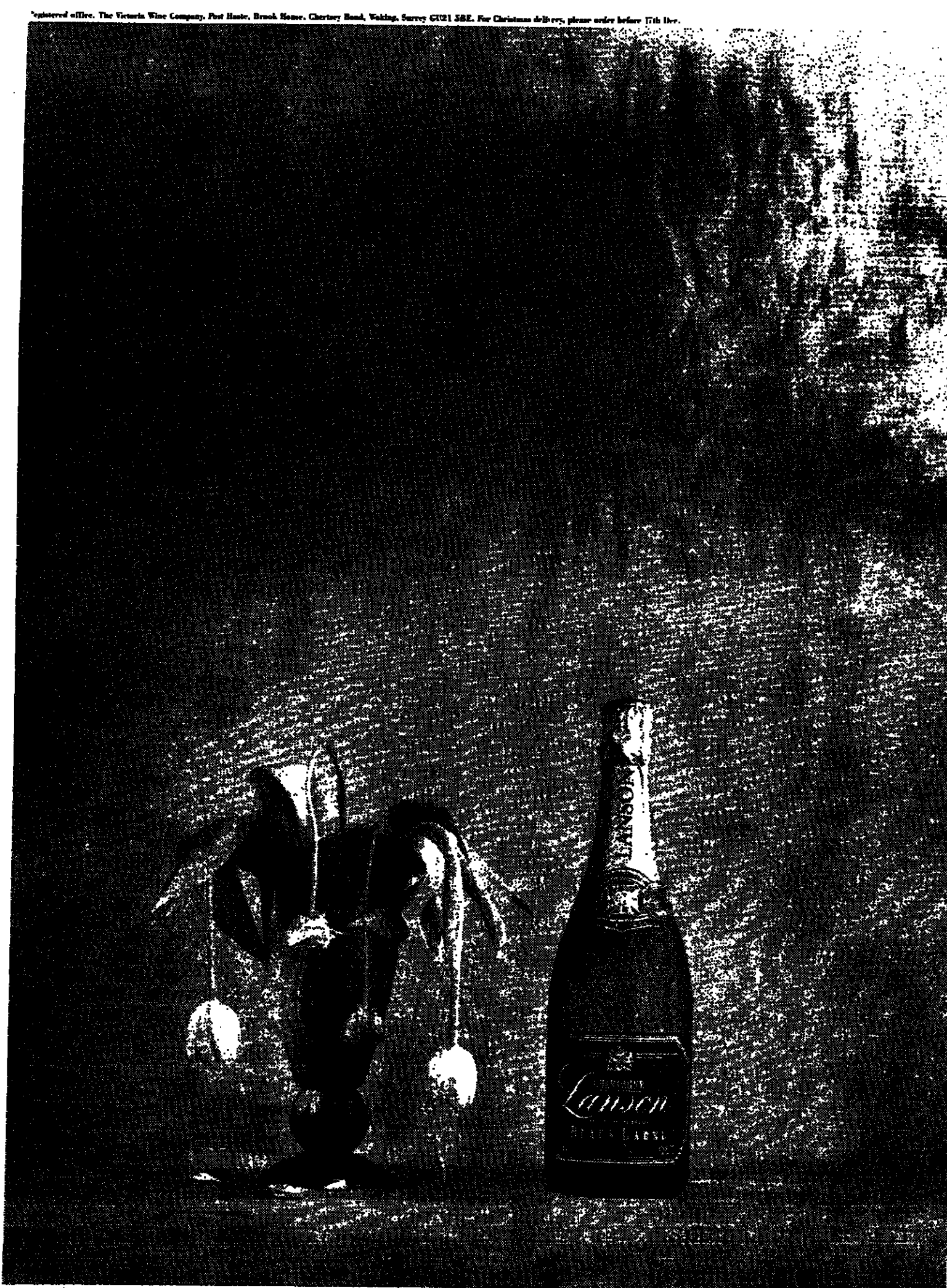
A terrible carnival of dead leaves."

That is from "A Poem without a Hero", an adequate description of the present Community as it searches in vain for heroic leadership.

The natural way out of this leadership vacuum would be to turn to the United States. That seems on the surface to be an attractive option. President-elect Bill Clinton, though he is almost the same age as John Major, is manifestly of a different generation. While Mr Major has been moulded by the Thatcher years and the market revolution of the 1980s, Mr Clinton's views are rooted in the class of '68. As more and more 40-year-olds rise to decisive positions in commerce and society, so Mr Clinton seems to be the voice for a new self-confident generation of leaders.

But it is probably misguided to seek inspiration from across the Atlantic. Mr Clinton is as much a prisoner of recession as the Europeans. On the day after his election, he said: "I am going to focus like a laser beam on the economy." Then, almost as an afterthought, he added: "and foreign policy will come into play in so far as it affects the economy."

If Mr Clinton has isolationist instincts, the European drift can only encourage him. As the American commentator William Pfaff wrote recently: "The European débacle validates every one of the perceptions of Europe which lay behind American isolationism in the 19th century, and in the 1920s and 1930s." His conclusion captures the tone of Washington-in-transition: can they (the Europeans) expect the US to save Europe from itself a third time this century? Do they not understand that this may not happen? That is a question designed to irritate a European audience. But it does have to be addressed — quickly — by the political class of Europe.



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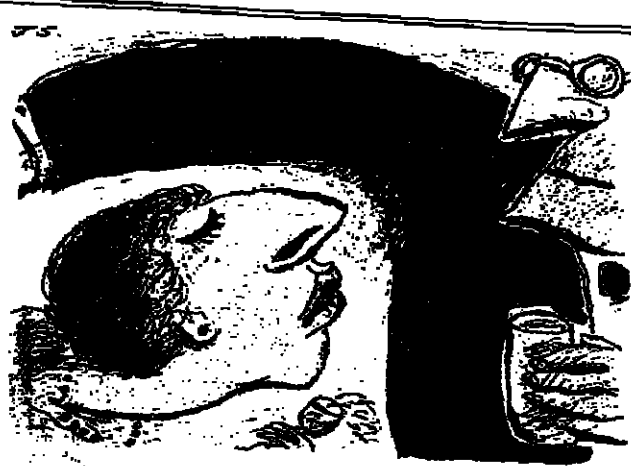
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A whiff of raw sex

DR DAVID KELLY, of the University of Wales is reported to have suggested that the recipe for success at the Christmas party is to forget the deodorants and aftershave and allow the natural smell of the armpit to work its magic on the opposite sex.

At this time of year, men secrete five times more pheromones, the chemicals which produce a sexually stimulating smell, than in the summer. Dr Kelly's views should not be taken as a licence to avoid bathing, for it would probably be worse for any would-be Don Juan to obscure the healthy smell of the pheromones with BO than with aftershave.

Whatever the season, doctors always take an interest in a patient's armpits, or the

axillae, and no examination is complete without feeling them to see if any enlarged lymph glands are present.

Finding an enlarged gland always causes some concern: breasts are searched for suspicious lumps, and arms for infections and other skin lesions. If no local cause is found, the gland is often taken out for examination by the pathologist so as to exclude generalised disease.

The *American Journal of Medicine*, quoting research from Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, reports that the skill of a pathologist is not always needed to make the correct diagnosis. For instance, in a study, 21 out of 25 healthy women with unexplained enlarged armpit glands regularly used a roll-on deodorant, while in a control group, only ten out of 40 women who did not have enlarged glands had used such a deodorant.

Keys to surgical tragedy

GOOD doctors are pessimists who leave nothing to chance. They should combine the philosophy of the officer cadet school — "Think of the worst that can happen, and prepare for it" — with that of the old lag in the barrack-room who is addicted to both belt and braces.

It is therefore unlikely that when tragedy results from routine surgery, as in the case of Ruth Silverman, who died after complications following a hysterectomy, no one factor can be blamed. Mrs Silverman was originally admitted for a hysterectomy via the vaginal route, but this was later changed to an abdominal hysterectomy. But after surgery, she developed gut complications. Laparoscopy — viewing the abdominal structures via a type of endoscope, an illuminated tube inserted through the abdominal wall — revealed that adhesions (scar tissue) had formed, obstructing the gut, and a decision was made to remove these by keyhole surgery.

In Mrs Silverman's case, there seems to have been a chapter of misfortunes or, as the coroner at her inquest put it, "It is a combination of missed opportunities which has led to this unfortunate lady's death."

The principal of sound surgery used to be wide exposure. The slick operator, intent on making his name as a smart society surgeon, would learn to remove an appendix through a tiny incision, arguing that after the event the scar was the only way a patient could judge the operation. The cautious surgeon, on the other hand, made a large incision, so that he could have a good look round and, if anything went wrong, there was room to manoeuvre. The end result was



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stuttford

a longer period of recuperation, but eventually the patient recovered.

Keyhole surgery is not just an extension of the concept of the pre-war operator who prided himself on small scars. It does have very real advantages. In keyhole surgery the operation is carried out through very small apertures with the operation site only viewed indirectly via endoscope, so there is no rummaging around in the guts with gloved hands.

The endoscope transmits pictures of the inside of a patient on a television screen, so the surgeon's actions are dictated by what he sees there. By means of keyhole surgery, gall bladders, kidneys, appendixes, even uteruses have been removed. The advantages are less blood loss, less damage to the abdominal wall and the patient, if all has gone well, is fit for home and ready to return to their occupation very much sooner. The smaller wounds mean that there is less chance of wound infection, with all its possible complications.

The disadvantages are obvious. Although joint surgery through an arthroscope (an endoscope for looking into a joint) and laparoscopy have been around for many years, surgeons have

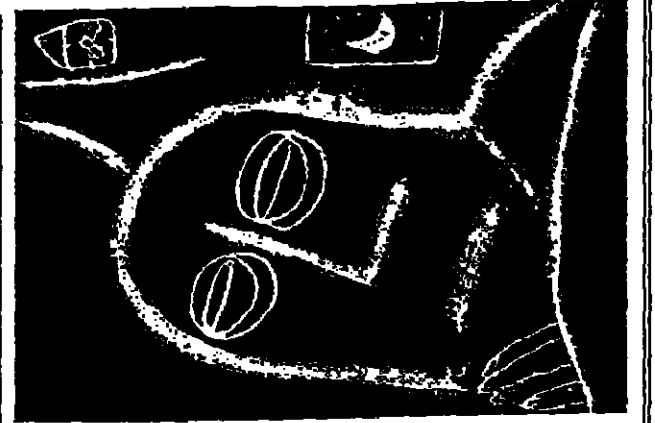
grown up with direct vision and like to run the guts through their hands so that they can say, with authority, "Well, that looks all right", and then close the patient up with confidence.

Viewing the surgical battlefield, and operating only by the indirect vision provided by a picture on a screen, is a whole new skill which has to be learnt. There is always a danger when a new technique is introduced that surgeons whose experience is necessarily limited will attempt too much.

After perforation of the gut, as happened with Mrs Silverman, the peritoneal cavity is contaminated by faecal bacteria and severe peritonitis will inevitably follow. Collapse is due to septicaemia, and the patient will thereafter need the care of a multi-disciplinary team such as is provided by an intensive care unit.

Although it is probably true that a London teaching hospital unit would epitomise excellence in this treatment, and a teaching hospital has the advantage of experts already at hand, there is no doubt that the Harley Street Clinic's intensive care unit, to which Mrs Silverman was admitted after she had collapsed at the Portland hospital, is justifiably proud of its record and just as highly regarded.

At any one time there are 15 patients in the unit, mainly those who have had cardio-thoracic surgery. There is a senior house officer in the unit, with previous experience of intensive care, as well as the resident medical officers. The patients are under the care of their consultants, who will bring expert advice to bear when needed.



Sweet to the labouring man

THE Royal Society of Medicine (RSM) launched a booklet this week on the medical management of insomnia. Insomnia affects 5 per cent of people under 30, but 35 per cent of those at the age of 65. Of those with a sleeping problem 48 per cent suffer every night.

The RSM report emphasises the social implications of sleeplessness, the accidents — including road accidents — it causes next day, the under-performance and under-achievement it produces in those who have to work although they have had a sleepless night.

Despite the extent of the problem there is no perfect sleeping pill. The longer-acting benzodiazepines, Mogadon for instance, can

cause drowsiness next day; the medium-acting benzodiazepines, such as temazepam cause little drowsiness but dependence in some people can be a problem; the use of short-acting benzodiazepines has many advantages, but there is dispute as to whether or not they can cause other side-effects. The cyclopyrrolone, Zimovane, is shorter acting and has fewer side-effects — including daytime sedation, or loss of memory in the elderly — than benzodiazepines.

Sleeping pills soon lose their effect and are virtually useless after being taken continuously for more than 10-14 days. Pills are ideal, however, for transient insomnia such as that resulting from jetlag or some sudden acute stress. For other insomnias they should only be prescribed for intermittent use to give a patient a good night's sleep when it is important for the next day.

According to a new survey, acne is neither a rite of passage nor necessarily a blight to life. Alice Thomson reports

What's par for your face?

They started on her chin and spread slowly up her face and down on to her chest. At first they were just small pimples, but after a couple of months they had grown into large, painful cysts that would not heal.

Lorna Peters was 16 when she began to develop acne. She gave up chocolate, crisps and chips, and bought all the over-the-counter pots, potions and creams that she could from her local chemist, but they just seemed to exacerbate the problem. Her skin began to look as if it had been dive-bombed by thousands of monster mosquitoes, each intent on committing hara-kiri in a different pore. After a year of covering up with foundation and brushing her hair down around her face she went to the doctor.

"I thought everyone was calling me pizza face behind my back. My skin felt so unclean I just wanted to peel it all off, it was revolting. Boys lost all interest in me and I couldn't blame them," Miss Peters says. "While I was waiting for my appointment a woman came up and asked if I had measles."

Miss Peters's GP was unsympathetic. He told her that most teenagers get spots and suggested that if she kept her face clean and did not tamper with any pimples she would "grow out" of the condition in a year. Seven years later Miss Peters no longer has acne, but only after changing her GP and being referred to a consultant dermatologist.

According to the largest survey ever carried out among those afflicted by acne, most sufferers put up with a lack of sympathy from GPs, despite the psychological pain caused. Results of the survey of 1,000 sufferers, which were published last week by the Acne Support Group, suggest that 52 per cent said their doctor was unsympathetic. Only 9 per cent said their doctor was

'My skin felt so unclean I just wanted to peel it all off. A woman came up and asked if I had measles'

sympathetic or very sympathetic.

The survey found that victims appear less likely to marry, with 60 per cent of sufferers remaining single, compared with a national average of 24 per cent. Sufferers will try almost any remedy: 97 per cent consulted GPs, 89 per cent bought over-the-counter treatments and almost half had tried alternative forms of therapy costing up to £500. Of more than 40 preparations available at chemists

only zinc tablets were rated above average in the treatment of the complaint.

The odd spot is seen as one of the rites of passage into adulthood, sandwiched between nappy rash and wrinkles. Up to 60 per cent of 14- to 18-year-old girls and 16- to 19-year-old boys experience acne. But the myth that severe acne is one of those inevitable trials of life has condemned many teenagers to appalling scarring, both physical and psychological.

Well-meaning parents who tell their suffering teenage children not to worry, as their spots will all miraculously disappear on their 21st birthday, are often ill-advised.

Acne is not just a teenage disease — 39 per cent of those sufferers surveyed were aged 25 to 34, 32 per cent were over 35 and 18 per cent had had acne for more than 25 years. Some, particularly women, had developed acne in their late twenties.

Dr Tony Chu, a consultant dermatologist at Hammer-smith Hospital, London, who specialises in acne, launched the Acne Support Group this year to provide advice to sufferers and to try to increase public awareness of the disease.

Dr Chu decided to set up the support group after appearing on BBC's *Tomorrow's World* last year and persuading the programme to set up a helpline. Nearly 1,000 people called the line and Dr Chu has since received more than 12,000 letters.

"People think you get acne because you're dirty and eat the wrong things. This is rubbish," Dr Chu says. As a teenager he himself suffered from acne, so he can draw on his own early feelings and experiences.

"Severe acne can ruin your life and scar your skin so you never undress in public or swim, and are afraid to form relationships. Some of my patients have thought about committing suicide every day."

One letter to Dr Chu came from a mother whose teenage son has a face that is "a mess". He washes with an antiseptic lotion four times a day, uses a sunlamp twice daily, discards towels after one shower and pats his face dry with kitchen roll. He has a phobia about sweating, for fear of developing another blocked pore. The acne, his mother wrote, has not only taken over his life but that of his parents as well.

One of Dr Chu's female patients, he says, got acne at 25 and nearly lost her husband and her job because she refused to go out anymore.

Acne, according to Terence Kealey, a senior lecturer in the department of clinical biochemistry at the University of Cambridge, is a disease of the pilosebaceous unit. This consists of the tiny hairs that cover the body, and the oil gland that lubricates the hair and the skin.

His department has learnt how to isolate the duct and is hoping to create an acne



Spot the joke: Ade Edmonson reveals the unacceptable face of acne in *The Young Ones*

model. "There are two types of acne," Mr Kealey says. "There is mild acne, where the cells of the duct divide excessively to block the duct and cause blackheads and whiteheads."

"Then there is severe acne, where the duct bursts and sebum, made of pure grease and bacteria, causes inflammatory collapse of the duct structure, and horrible pus-filled forms."

He says acne, like facial hair and body odour, can be a sign of the onset of puberty, but that does not mean it should be tolerated. Food and drinks are not a cause of acne, he says, but stress can make the condition worse.

Dr Dafydd Roberts, a consultant dermatologist at Singleton Hospital, Swansea, says that treatments for acne have improved dramatically in the past few years. Sufferers just need to come forward.

"Roaccutane — a vitamin A treatment — has revolutionised treatments and can cure most acnes. Of my patients, 75 per cent have been cured in four months."

Dr Roberts says, "There are side-effects such as dry lips and eyes, and muscle pains, and patients who are pregnant shouldn't take it. But the side effects do not last."

If you suffer continually from severe spots, Dr Roberts advises over-the-counter remedies, but if these are ineffective a GP should be consulted and you should ask for a topical treatment. He warns, however, that excessive washing can actually exacerbate the situation.

Don't just be fobbed off with a two-week course of antibiotics. Antibiotics should be used at the full dose for a couple of months, then slowly withdrawn. If they still don't work, ask to see a dermatologist. They can either give you a prescription to treat the hormones that treat the infection with stronger antibiotics or use Roaccutane, which shrinks the sebaceous glands."

But how does the sufferer know when it is legitimate to go to a GP and make a fuss? Dr Gabriel Jaffe, a GP in Bournemouth, Dorset, says: "If it is a problem socially or it is inhibiting your work, ask your GP for advice. The girl who only has a few bad spots has just as much right to consult her GP as someone with severe acne if they are causing her misery."

"When I qualified, skin was at the bottom of doctors' priorities. Slowly we're beginning to realise the huge effect it has on people's lives."

According to Dr Halla Beloff, a social psychologist at Edinburgh University, acne is one of the worst disfigurements. "People always tell you to put on a brave face. But how can you when it's your face that is the problem? People have the thought of touching blemished skin."

As well as seeking out a dermatologist, her advice to sufferers is to fight back. "Make a real effort with clothes, hair and your body and look positive."

Dr Chu believes that advertisements for skin-care products merely add salt to the wound. "The advertising for acne is unrealistic. You see people with severe acne and cysts miraculously cured in a week. Now that just doesn't happen. It also perpetuates the myth of uncleanliness, because the before pictures always show the victim with a greasy fringe, dirty clothes and stooping, and the after pictures show the blemish-free person in a shiny new outfit off to some disco."

But Dr William Cunliffe, a dermatologist based at the Leeds General Infirmary, believes that over-the-counter products are the most effective remedy for the majority of teenagers with spots. "Benzoyl Peroxide, the active ingredient in the most widely available over-the-counter products for spots and physiological acne, is the most effective therapy," he says. "It lessens bacteria and also reduces comedones [the medical name for blackheads], red spots and pus-spots."

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A SEPARATION

Frankness and modesty make the best friends at court

Royal marriages attract hyperbole as fiercely as mortal illnesses attract euphemism. Whether the news is for good or ill, exaggeration is regularly the victor. Yesterday in the House of Commons there was an almost palpable gloom when the Prime Minister announced the royal separation. Serious Members of Parliament described Mr Major's short speech as the saddest announcement from the despatch box for two decades. The mood would have suited a royal death. It seemed somewhat excessive for a civilised decision by two adults to live apart.

There are many people in Britain who, however unconsciously, measure their own lives by the royal family's landmarks. One MP remarked yesterday how he had been born on the same day as Prince Charles and had always followed his life with closeness and care. Few are wholly free from that sense of shared experience. In February, 11 years ago we headed this column with the words "The Happiest of News". Five months later we exulted that "Even the Sun Shone" as the Prince and Princess of Wales, their brief period of betrothal complete, were married at St Paul's Cathedral. Today we sympathise with the personal circumstances that have brought two people to decide that their roles as man and wife can be acted out no longer.

Yesterday's announcement should not, however, be a matter for public misery. The separation is in many ways a relief. The truth did not break on "a stunned and sorrowing people", the words which we used to describe the news of King Edward VIII's abdication. There is little place to be stunned, in a country where one marriage in three ends in divorce. In the 1990s, as in every other decade, the upholding of the monarchy requires many necessary and wholesome fictions; but a fictional royal marriage is now not one of them.

The press was much criticised in the House of Commons yesterday. Whatever the role of the media in making the royal relationship more difficult (a matter which is unlikely to be adjudicated fairly in the current climate) the insistent press scrutiny must certainly have made it harder to live the lie of a successful marriage. It is a benefit that so painful a necessity has now ceased.

The immediate public issues are few. For the press a period of restraint has been demanded. It is unlikely that the reporting of the Prince and Princess will slacken, however desirable that might be. The privacy of the two young princes ought, however, to be respected. It is rash to predict that the public would ever punish a newspaper which harassed young boys whose parents had decided to part. But, whether from compassion or self-interest, the press should heed the calls.

As the prime minister made clear, there is today no constitutional crisis. There is barely as yet even a constitutional issue. The succession to the throne is unaffected. The succession as Head of the Church of England is unaffected. The change in the Prince's circumstances should allow a reopening of the question about whether his talents deserve a more substantial role.

The position of the Princess of Wales may yet bring greater problems. She might now usefully consider a quieter role for a time. Although there are no constitutional reasons why she should not become Queen one day, there may now be severe practical difficulties. A reigning Queen who was separated from her husband could not carry out all her public duties, still less act as a unifying symbol.

That is a matter for the future, for the very distant future we hope. The Queen can command the sympathy and respect of the whole nation as her *annus horribilis* ends.

GAIDAR AGONISTES

The real battle is about who runs Russia, and for whose benefit

The past has voted against the future in Russia. The Congress of People's Deputies, more than half of whom owe their seats to their loyalty to the communist system, narrowly failed last weekend to deprive President Yeltsin of his power to form a government. Yesterday, they struck back by throwing out Mr Yeltsin's candidate for prime minister, Yegor Gaidar, who has held the job for a year in an acting capacity.

This vote was critical because the confrontation between Boris Yeltsin and his opponents is not over Mr Gaidar as an individual, or even over his policies. The struggle, which has more than a whiff of old Kremlin politics about it, is over who governs Russia, and for whose benefit. Although some of their number insist that increased state intervention is compatible with market reform, most of those who voted against Mr Gaidar want to protect the vast state industrial machine from market forces through a modified, "state capitalist", version of the command economy. That would leave the levers of power inherited from communism largely intact.

Mr Yeltsin may decide to retain Mr Gaidar in his acting capacity until the next session of the congress in April, as he is entitled to do. But the president's personal authority, while still considerable, has been weakened by this rebuff, which is what his opponents intended. He is partly to blame for this setback. Conscious that public support for economic reform was wavering, he sought to deflect criticism from himself earlier this autumn by withdrawing his protection from Mr Gaidar and his team.

Mr Yeltsin appears to have regretted his flirtation with conservative forces. This week, he described a vote for Mr Gaidar as a guarantee to the outside world "that Russia is moving along the path of reform". He

may yet trim on economic strategy. But his attempted bribe to the congress, offering it a veto over the choice of key ministers, did not save Mr Gaidar and leaves Russia even less governable than before.

Neither the congress nor the Russian parliament, elected in 1990, should be assumed to represent ordinary Russians, although anxiety about de-industrialisation is widespread. Most deputies owe their careers to the command economy. Despite the emergency powers Mr Yeltsin won from parliament in 1991, both bodies have considerable power to obstruct government policies, making adjustment more difficult and painful. Yet no group in either has a workable strategy for managing the changes sweeping the real Russia. The Civic Union coalition of industrialists, nationalists and military men joined forces with diehard communists this week, instead of welcoming Mr Yeltsin's invitation to forge the basis of a "civilised, two-party system".

Mr Yeltsin may well respond by gathering the million signatures needed for a referendum on abolishing the congress. What Russia needs is a clear separation of powers between executive and legislatures, absent under the existing constitution. The vote underlines Russia's urgent need for political as well as economic reforms.

Mr Yeltsin still has the backing of most Russians, who have proved remarkably philosophical about the pain involved in learning to work with markets. They trust no instant panaceas, and they know that economic decline began well before reforms were undertaken. What they curse is chaos at the top, the chief enemy of reform. In constant disputes over where power resides, the vested interests created under the old system wield disproportionate influence. They have had a field day this week.

TOO BAD TO BE TRUE

The economic darkness is lightening: believe it

Anyone who follows fashion will know that black was the colour of last year's collections. But in Britain's corporate boardrooms, as well as in the print and television newsrooms, black is all the rage this autumn.

The fashion for economic pessimism was understandable enough before sterling broke out of the ERM chain gang on the day of economic liberation that was characteristically dubbed Black Wednesday. Interest rates, though not yet low enough, have fallen towards a reasonable level. British goods are again competitively priced in world markets. The stockmarket is scaling new records. And the prime minister has personally promised to do whatever is necessary to restore economic growth. Yet anyone who judged the state of the nation by political soundbites and media headlines would conclude that Britain was hurtling faster than ever into a recessionary black hole.

Last week's scare stories were about job losses, or more precisely job massacres. In reality, the redundancies likely to result in the coming months from the job cuts recently announced by the Post Office, banks and many other employers will be but a small fraction of the blood-curdling headlines. As *The Times* showed on Monday, employers often overemphasise the savagery of their planned job reductions, in order to impress shareholders and take advantage of an accountability loophole that is due to close next June. With the flow of

redundancy announcements now drying up ahead of Christmas, the doomsday are having to turn to another fountain of economic poison. "Ford prices rocket 10 per cent" screamed the tabloids yesterday. The outrage was, of course, encouraged by Labour, which immediately called on the government "to act" in unspecified ways against Ford.

More companies will revise price lists in the New Year, leading to more inflationary horrors. Yet, like the redundancy announcements, the stories of rising prices are not quite what they seem. In Ford's case only a handful of supercharged models will rise by as much as 10 per cent. The great majority of the company's British-built small cars will go up only 4.5 per cent, while the bigger Sierras and Granadas, made in Germany and Belgium will go up by 7.5 per cent.

As Ford pointed out on Tuesday, the sterling cost of its foreign-made models has risen considerably more than 7.5 per cent as a result of devaluation. But this is not the issue. Whether Ford or any other company is "justified" in raising its prices is a question for the market. If Fords become too expensive, people will buy other cars.

Why, then, do the media and the politicians make such a fuss? In the words of the old Fleet Street adage, bad news sells. But at a time when there is genuinely bad news in abundance, misinformation hardly seems required.

Case for further intervention by West in Bosnia's war

From Mr John G. Kennedy

Sir, Your leading article (December 5) and subsequent correspondence (December 8) have displayed dangerous ignorance in assessing the conditions for further Western involvement in the current Bosnian civil war.

Here we have no foreign army, but three indigenous peoples fighting amongst themselves town by town and in some cases street by street. The current role of Serbia and the rump Yugoslavia cannot warrant the term aggressor, which is used to describe an attack by one state on another.

Serbia is not attacking Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Foreign Office minister, Douglas Hogg, said in a written answer (Hansard, col 554, October 27) that there was no firm evidence on whether the Serbian regime was supplying the Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina. No intelligence report, it seems, exists to point to arms, troops, munitions or other military assistance crossing the border from Serbia to Bosnia-Herzegovina. Thus any plan to attack Serbia itself would be impossible to justify and would almost certainly be rejected, in my view, by Russia and China in the Security Council.

To give weapons to any of Bosnia's three communities would massively escalate the conflict. The idea seems at odds with a consensus that one of Bosnia's ethnic entities should not be encouraged to crush another.

The fighting in Bosnia has gone beyond the point where the use of outside force would have any effect. This is not ultimately a war of territorial ambition: we are witnessing a bitter inter-ethnic conflict within a population whose majority now seem intent on stifling the new sovereign state of which they are all a legitimate part. No army in the world could enter such a tangle safely.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KENNEDY,
9 Cork Street, Mayfair, W1,
December 8.

From Dr Drago Stambuk

Sir, Your otherwise excellent leading article on the situation in Bosnia is misleading in one important respect. You say that "the UN should be there to stop the fighting and push the Serbs (and Croats) back from Bosnian territory taken by force" (emphasis added).

Croatia has never claimed, let alone seized, Bosnian territory. Indeed, Croatia was among the first states to recognise the sovereignty of Bosnia-Herzegovina within its existing legal frontiers. Were it not for the resistance of ethnic Croats within Bosnia-Herzegovina against Serb aggression the Bosnian Muslims would have been defeated already and the murder would be still more widespread. Impoverished Croatia is now bear-

ing the strain of caring for hundreds of thousands of refugees from Serb "ethnic cleansing". These Bosnian refugees have fled to Croatia because they know, if others do not, that we are their friends and the Serbs their enemies.

May I remind your readers that Croatia territory is regularly under attack from Serb forces, that a third of the country is under effective Serb control, that ethnic cleansing of those areas notional under UN supervision continues and that, in spite of all this, Croatia is still subject to an arms embargo which leaves overwhelming military superiority in the hands of the Yugoslav national army, which is in effect the Serbian army.

Even-handedness between good and evil has distorted the West's response throughout this tragedy. Your own powerful analysis should not now be flawed by it.

Yours etc.,
D. STAMBUK,
Abbeville, 4 Abbeville Road, SW4,
December 7.

From Professor D. Cameron Watt

Sir, Your leading article failed to give sufficient weight to the arguments against military intervention in Bosnia.

Non-intervention requires active and public pressure on Serbia's landward neighbours and a UN prohibition on all new arms sales to Serbia, backed by UN observers in Greece, Romania and Hungary.

Intervention requires serious discussions of the funding, logistics, and how to cope with the transfer of populations that is already in progress. It requires definition of the positive ends towards which intervention is aimed. It requires some proposals as to how to cope with the possible, if not inevitable, fragmentation of the Bosnian Serbs into bands of irregulars living off the hillside villages as the Greek communists did from 1946 to 1949 or so. And it requires serious consideration of the time-scale on which intervention is planned, and of the command structure under which military occupation is to be conducted.

If these arguments are not tackled, both cases fall to the ground. Emotion and anger are bad counsellors and national pride is a worse one.

Yours faithfully,
D. CAMERON WATT,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Department of International History,
Houghton Street, WC2,
December 7.

From Dr Hugh Saxton

Sir, Missiles can now be targeted with extreme precision. It would be possible for the UN to warn Serbia that

unless she withdraws support for those attacking the Muslims of Bosnia, her bridges, military airfields, rail marshalling yards, arterial roads, ammunition dumps, barracks, ports and oil refineries will be destroyed. Targets could be chosen for their economic impact and, given adequate notice, all personnel could be evacuated.

There is, of course, a risk of a "human shield" response but it would be hard to apply this to every kilometre of road or rail or runway. Such measures would be costly, but not in human lives, and it is hard to believe that they would not be more effective than sanctions are proving.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH SAXTON,
50 Norlands Crescent,
Chislehurst, Kent,
December 8.

From Mr Milan Krnetka

Sir, Unlike Mr Drake (letter, December 8), I do not believe that the various republics of the former Yugoslavia are really so diverse in their histories, religions, cultures and languages. In any event, if, because of their differences, these people cannot live together, and if this justifies the break-up of Yugoslavia, then the same must be true of the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. If Muslims and Croats cannot live with Serbs, then the Serbs of Bosnia and Croatia must be allowed to unite with the Serbs of Serbia and Montenegro.

Yours faithfully,
MILAN KRNETKA,
157 Grange Road,
Leichworth, Hertfordshire,
December 8.

US in Somalia

From Ms Jan Morris

Sir, Mixed motives govern every great historical enterprise, but Simon Jenkins is wrong (article, December 5) in suggesting that Rudyard Kipling, in *The White Man's Burden*, was just warning the Americans against the "perils of empire". On the contrary, he was urging them to share in the sacrifice of what he considered a noble purpose — "to seek another's profit. And work another's gain".

If Mr Jenkins cannot accept Kipling's imperial ethos as a guide to the moral use of power, perhaps he would accept Burke's principle that a great nation should be sympathetic with the adversity or with the happiness of mankind, feeling that nothing in human affairs was foreign to it.

Yours faithfully,
JAN MORRIS,
Trefan Morys,
Llanysumdwy, Gwynedd,
December 5.

Double role

From Mrs Barbara Roche, MP for Hornsey and Wood Green (Labour)

Sir, Your report of December 8, "Clarke defends tangle of files for Clinton records", details the home secretary's appearance before the home affairs select committee and his responses to our questions about why his department had checked their files during the US presidential election campaign to ascertain whether Bill Clinton had applied for British citizenship during the Vietnam war.

While the home secretary told us that his press office had been "overhelpful", he gave no explanation as to why the search had been allowed, and why, if press officers had over-reached themselves without ministerial authorisation, no disciplinary action was being taken.

As David Winnick said in the House of Commons yesterday, unless some separation is made between the daily workings of departments of state and purely party matters, departments become no more than extensions of Conservative Central Office. As in the matter of the payment of the Chancellor's legal bills, civil servants are increasingly being used as party workers.

Sherman Funk, the US state department's inspector general, found recently that his staff had been used improperly in an attempt "to influence the outcome of a presidential election". It seems to me that Kenneth Clarke should come clean and admit the same.

Yours sincerely,
BARBARA ROCHE,
House of Commons,
December 8.

Bombing cover

From Mrs Jennifer Ashworth

Sir, Property insurance cover for the IRA bombings in Britain (report, December 5) could be provided in a similar manner as earthquake damage is in New Zealand. There, insurance companies levy a charge on all property insurance, which is passed to the earthquake and war damages commission. This government department is responsible for settling claims due to earthquake damage.

Yours faithfully,
JENNIFER ASHWORTH,
Upper Siddington House,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Mark of authority

From Mr Christopher Morcom, QC

Sir, As we near the end of the current UK presidency of the European Community, I wish to draw attention to the fact that there is still no Community institution located in Britain. After almost 21 years of membership, and considering that Britain is a major contributor to the Community budget, this is a deplorable situation.

I understand that among the matters to be discussed at the forthcoming Edinburgh summit are the locations of three Community institutions: the central bank, the Environment Office and the Community Trade Mark Office. The last mentioned of these has been under consideration for at least 12 years. The office will operate a trade mark

Ireland's example

From the Chairman of the Electoral Reform Society

Sir, Calling the current Irish political scene in aid of the anti-proportional representation case requires even more myopia than usual (letters, December 7, 8). Have your correspondents conveniently forgotten the interminable recounts for the Peterborough constituency in 1964 and the long drawn-out haggling that went on before Mr Heath relinquished power in February 1974? Or of a Conservative government able to pass the poll tax through the artificially loaded House of Commons but not through the country?

The fact is that the Irish election system combines the best points of party proportionality with MP accountability. The party leaders are able to discuss coalition partners amongst their three large and two smaller parliamentary groups in the light of the voters' expressed preferences on their ballot papers.

No such consideration is possible in Britain, where the parties are internal coalitions spread over an unhealthy broad span of views. Here the voter is presented with a party list of one only, take it or leave it, with the tail wagging the dog — as the Conservative rebels demonstrated in the recent Maastricht debate vote.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MEADOWCROFT,
Chairman, Electoral Reform Society,
6 Chancel Street, Blackfriars, SE1,
December 3.

system covering the whole Community, something which is regarded as essential for industry in the single European market. The establishment of such a system is still being delayed primarily by a failure to reach a decision on the location of the office.

From the outset, the government has proposed London as a suitable site for the Community Trade Mark Office. London has a unique professional infrastructure providing an unrivalled range of services to industry, so the case for London as the centre for the protection of trade marks is overwhelming. It is to be hoped that one positive outcome from Edinburgh will be an agreement that this vital organisation should be based in London.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER MORCOM,
1 Essex Court, Temple, EC4,
December 4.

From Councillor Michael Storey

Sir, Under a first-past-the-post system, our own general election in April was settled by a small number of votes — perhaps as few as 20,000 in around 25 of the UK's 651 constituencies. Since then, we have witnessed the spectacle of a government, with a minority of the votes, exercising total power incompetently whilst striving freely from its manifesto intentions.

Important decisions are negotiated behind closed doors in Carlton Club rooms and many successful MPs have left their "safe" constituencies far behind them to pursue professional political careers in Westminster.

In contrast, with the benefit of a single transferable vote system, the people of the Irish Republic know that each and every one of their votes has counted fully. They have been able to express their political preferences in detail, often preferring candidates from differing parties to reward or punish local records of service or dereliction.

Negotiations will now take place between parties, rather than factions of parties. Each party will have to justify to supporters, issue by issue, its compromises or failures to compromise. And each successful candidate will have noted the success of those who had strong local records of action and will be anxious to strengthen ties with their own constituency by service and dedication to its people and community.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL STOREY,
(Leader, Liberal Democrats),
Liverpool City Council,
Municipal Offices,
Dale Street, Liverpool 1,
December 3.

Finances biased against the gallery

From Sir Denis Mahon, FBA

Sir, In welcoming the fully justified protest of the chairman of the National Art-Collections Fund at the abrupt cessation of the grants earmarked for purchases at the national museums (letter, December 2), I should like to refer especially to the National Gallery.

The Treasury has long made a practice of claiming that it is conferring "freedom" while proffering a poisoned chalice. In the present case it is in reality giving itself freedom to avoid a financial responsibility for which it has always accepted commitment in the past: that of providing the trustees with a specified grant to be devoted to what has always been recognised as their paramount duty, that of promoting the development of the collection.

But the disappearance of this grant in a global figure, covering also running costs (including staffing) and building maintenance, has the intended effect of making it as difficult as possible to have a view on the adequacy of the financing of purchases.

If the trustees of the National Gallery, who must be presumed not to have been consulted, are unable to obtain a reversal of this provision, it is to be hoped that they will keep the public fully informed as to the gallery's financial situation and their apportionment of funds so that admirers of its achievements may take up the cudgels on its behalf.

It is ironic that, at a time when the National Gallery is responding so well to increasing the public interest and when private generosity to it has reached unprecedented heights (one thinks of the Sainsbury Wing and the Getty Fund), the Treasury — as usual lacking a sense of proportion — prevails over the Department of National Heritage to put into effect its small-minded scheme to the gallery's advantage, worked out with misplaced ingenuity. Hardly the way to generate support.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS MAHON,
33 Cadogan Square, SW1,
December 3.

At our service

From Mr David Kiggell

Sir, Your leading article, "A fairer deal" (November 27), asks what there would be left to vote about in council elections if all local government expenditure were centrally funded. The answer is "service". Central government already provides over 80 per cent of council income. Let it provide 100 per cent, and let councillors compete to provide the most for this money. I shall vote for the local politician who will give the community the best service.

Yours truly,
DAVID KIGGELL,
Straight Ash,
Ashurststead Common,
Pangbourne, Berkshire.

UN for minorities

From Sir John Thomson, Chairman, Minority Rights Group

Sir, Your leader, "Rights of minorities" (December 4), is sub-titled: "Group rights must not diminish individual human rights." This point is explicitly recognised in the new United Nations declaration, which was passed unanimously by a UN committee on December 4 and is due to go to the General Assembly on December 14. Minority rights are akin to human rights but are not the same thing.

Communities, majorities as well as minorities, have political importance. Among the merits of the declaration, and a reason why the Minority Rights Group has promoted it, is its acknowledgment that people can exercise rights through communities and that the state has an obligation in this respect. Realistic statesmanship recognises the need for communities to the together within the law rather than for each to seek its own salvation, usually at the expense of the rights of others. The universal acceptance of limited community rights facilitates this goal and deserves support.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN THOMSON,
Chairman, Minority Rights Group,
379 Brixton Road, SW9.

Where on earth?

From Mr Colin Hill

Sir, Mrs Fulford Brown, who objects to your publishing a map to show your readers the whereabouts of Manchester (letter, December 8), should recall that *The Times* is sold abroad. Not everyone in Spain, for instance, may know where Manchester is (although all my friends in Las Rozas do, because they follow football), and not so long ago, at a drinks party in Lancashire, I was asked by a lady (from the North) what the beach was like in Madrid.

Take heart from a bit of help, Madam. That map may be just a reflection on the way geography is taught in England.

Yours from very much further south,
COLIN HILL,
Calle Concha Espina,
Las Rozas, 28230, Madrid,
December 9.



ARTS 33-35

Katharine Hepburn gave librarians a bad name



CHARITIES 32

A guide to effective giving this Christmas



SPORT 39-44

Simon Barnes on the revival of America's Team

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Page 43

THE TIMES

2

THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 1992

BUSINESS TODAY

ARTS AWARD

The Arthur Andersen award, held in association with *The Times*, honours the work of volunteer business advisers helping the arts. **Page 30**

AMSTRAD VOTE

Amstrad shareholders meeting today in London are widely expected to reject Alan Sugar's offer of 30p a share. **Page 27**

COAL JOBS

A further 26,000 jobs will be lost if the plan to close 31 coal pits goes ahead, Gillian Shephard warns. **Page 25**

ACCOUNTANCY

The present council of the English ICA is almost incapable of making swift decisions, claims Robert Bruce. **Page 31**

US dollar
1.5665 (-0.0295)
German mark
2.4641 (-0.0301)
Exchange index
80.4 (-1.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

FT 30 share
2074.8 (-16.4)
FT-SE 100
2750.7 (-19.1)
New York Dow Jones
3339.58 (+11.35)*
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
17406.22 (+124.37)

INTEREST RATES
London: Bank Base: 7%
3-month interbank: 7 1/4-7 1/2%
3-month prime: 8 1/4-8 1/2%
US Prime: 6%
Federal Funds: 3 1/4%
3-month Treasury: 3 1/4-3 1/2%
30-year bonds: 10 1/2-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES
London: £/\$1.5700
New York: £/\$1.5700
£/DM2.4657
DM/\$1.5700
£/Sfr2.2103
Sfr/\$1.4075
£/FF6.4680
FF/\$16.65
£/Yen154.76
Yen/\$124.05
£/index: 80.4
index: 85.0
ECU/\$0.796796
SDR/\$0.874434
£/ECU1.25028
SDR/\$1.43398
London Forex market close

GOLD
London: 333.40 PM \$333.50
Close: 333.75-334.25
\$212.40-212.90
New York: 333.65-334.15*

CRUDE OIL
Brent (Jan): \$17.80/bbl (\$17.95)

RETAIL PRICES
RPI: 139.9 October (1987=100)
* Denotes midday trading price

Lonrho issue paves way for Rowland exit

By MARTIN WALLER

DIETER Bock, a German businessman and owner of the Kempinski luxury hotels chain, has ridden to the aid of Lonrho. Tiny Rowland's debt-plagued international trading conglomerate, by underwriting half of a planned £170 million rights issue, has secured the support of nearly half Mr Rowland's 15 per cent shareholding for £50 million and take an option to buy most of the rest.

In a wide-ranging financial restructuring, Lonrho is also selling VAG, its British Volkswagen and Audi dealer, for £124 million. The rights, on a three-for-ten basis, will involve the issue of almost 200 million new shares at 85p. Apart from the 100 million Herr Bock has guaranteed to take, the rest of the issue is not underwritten, so the exact amount that will come in to replenish Lonrho's

Tiny Rowland, chief executive of Lonrho, the debt-laden conglomerate, is selling half his holding and raising cash for the company from a share issue and disposal

offers will depend on market response. The issue price compares with Lonrho's share price of 79p, up 5p last night as wind of the deal reached the market. The shares started the year at 177p.

Herr Bock is paying 115p each for 43.5 million shares out of Mr Rowland's personal holding. This is the first time Mr Rowland has ever sold Lonrho shares. Herr Bock also has an option to buy 45.5 million of Mr Rowland's remaining shares after three years or, if later, when Mr Rowland ceases to be a Lonrho director. Mr Rowland has a similar option to require Herr Bock to buy.

Lonrho, which reported a

drop in first half pre-tax profits from £109 million to £38 million, says that the recovery that Mr Rowland forecast in the second half did not take place. Net after-tax profits attributable to shareholders for the year to end-September are now estimated at £82 million, but this is after crediting extraordinary gains of £76 million. A final dividend of 2p is forecast, bringing the annual sum to 4p (13p).

Several overseas shareholders, including Genting, the vehicle of Tan Sri Lim, the Malaysian tycoon, have already established a foothold on Lonrho's share register. Genting, the South African mining group, has said it is interested in Lonrho's South African coal mining and platinum interests, which would fit well with its Impala platinum operations. Lonrho also has a 45 per cent holding in the Ashanti gold mine in Ghana, with which Genting has a technical agreement covering gold processing.

Lonrho, many of whose assets are in Africa, has admitted to a sterling debt problem and has been selling assets to raise cash. In South Africa, it has close mining links with Genting, involved in plantations and casinos, is thought to be interested in the group's hotels and casinos.

Lonrho's core businesses have been battered by the recession and the low price on world markets of platinum, and there has been growing disaffection in the City at the management and autocratic style of Mr Rowland, 75.

The company's standing in the City was further hit by news in spring that Lonrho would be selling a one-third stake in its Metropole Hotels business to Libya for £177.5 million. This raised fears that it could end up on America's list of banned companies because of United Nations sanctions against Libya. The Libyan deal was cleared by the department of trade and industry in June.

Comment, page 27

Major proposes rebuilding ERM

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR suggested that the European exchange-rate mechanism should be related to the dollar and the yen as part of a reconstruction of the system that would enable Britain to rejoin.

The proposal, made in a private meeting with European employers and trade union leaders, is likely to surprise economists and politicians, but business leaders are expected to pursue it in forthcoming talks with the Treasury.

Since Britain left the ERM on September 16, ministers have made clear that Britain will rejoin only when conditions are right. The Treasury insists that those would include ending turbulence on the foreign exchanges, bringing UK and German monetary policy more closely into line and reducing interest rate differentials.

At yesterday's meeting, which was attended by Howard Davies, director-general of the CBI and Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC,

among others, Mr Major detailed several European economic issues that he insisted were "interlinked", including progress on the single market and the Gatt agreement.

According to those present, he then mentioned the difficulties with the ERM over the summer, up to and including September 16, and said several problems about the reconstruction of the system remained.

He said that when the system was rebuilt, Europe would have to look at the ERM's relationship with the yen and the dollar. Some economists believe such a relationship with currencies outside Europe would create greater stability; others argue that it would increase the constraints and pressures on European currencies and compound the difficulties that caused Britain to leave the mechanism.

Politically, Mr Major's suggestion could prove difficult on the eve of the European summit in Edinburgh.

Isosceles chief to step down

By JON ASHWORTH

ALISTAIR MITCHELL-INNES is stepping down as chief executive of Isosceles, the heavily indebted parent of Gateway, the supermarket chain.

News of his departure, announced after yesterday's monthly board meeting, came with confirmation of a review of the group's financial structure. There had been talk that trading difficulties would force the group into a third big refinancing, less than six

weeks after the second. Mr Mitchell-Innes, who was appointed chief executive in September 1991, after the departure of David Smith, will step down next year. He will continue to have primary responsibility for Gateway Foodmarkets until a new chief executive has been appointed.

Ernest Sharp, chairman of Isosceles, said it had been agreed when Mr Mitchell-Innes joined that he would

step down in 1993. Mr Sharp said in a statement: "We have been reviewing our trading strategy to determine the most appropriate way of positioning the group's portfolio of stores. To this end we are working with a firm of management consultants."

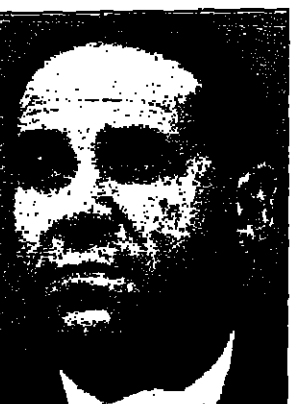
This is the second big change at the group in two months. Bob Willmet stepped down as chief executive of Gateway in October.

Brittan seethes over Fiat cash critics

From TOM WALKER
IN BRUSSELS

SIR Leon Brittan, EC competition commissioner, was said to be furious yesterday at criticism of his decision to allow the Italian government to pump £2.47 billion into Fiat, the troubled car group. "He's not at all happy. People just aren't looking at the facts," his spokesman said.

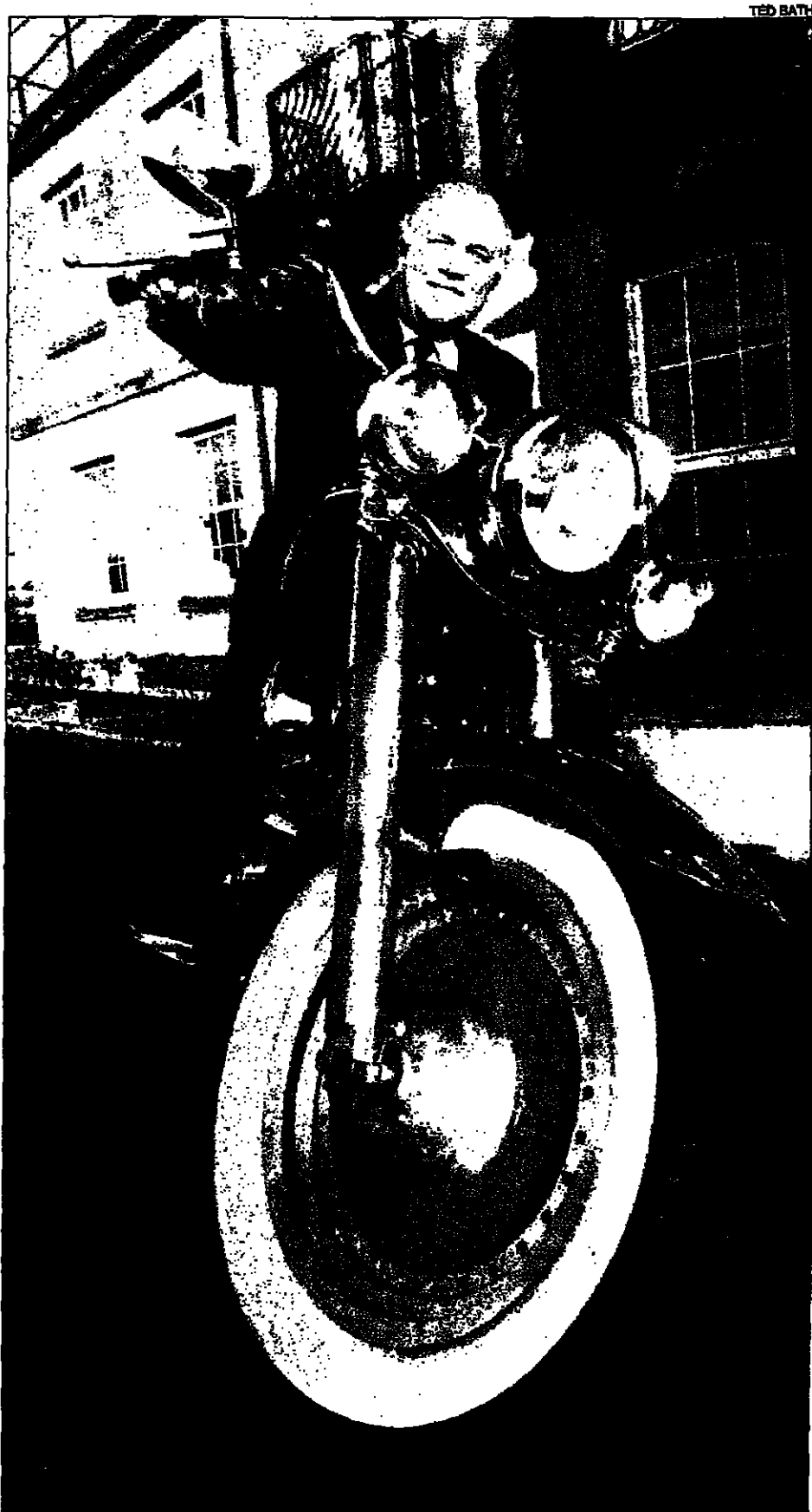
Brussels has allowed the aid because Fiat will use it to build two new factories in Mezzogiorno, the poor southern region, while closing factories in the richer North. The overall effect is to raise the group's car production by 3 per cent and overall EC car output by just 0.2 per cent, way beneath expected increases in demand. At the



Sir Leon: angry

same time the commission expects huge spin-off benefits to ancillary industries in southern Italy. The new plant at Melfi will produce Fiat's replacement for the Uno, con-

fusingly codenamed the Tipo R. Over the next decade, Fiat will renew its entire 18-model range as part of a multi-billion pound investment plan that will shift production towards the south of Italy. About £400 million of the aid will be given in grants for research and development, as Fiat is "making genuine advances", according to Sir Leon's spokesman. Both factories—the second, in Pratola Serra, will make engines—will be highly automated, and will help secure the company's lead in robotised technology in Europe. Fiat is already selling automated factory equipment to its rivals on the Continent, and recently helped Ford re-equip its plant at Genk, in Belgium. Sir Leon also allowed German aid yes-



Motoring ahead: Lord Farnham, chairman of Avon Rubber, where profits rose 36 per cent

Avon Rubber bounces above £9m

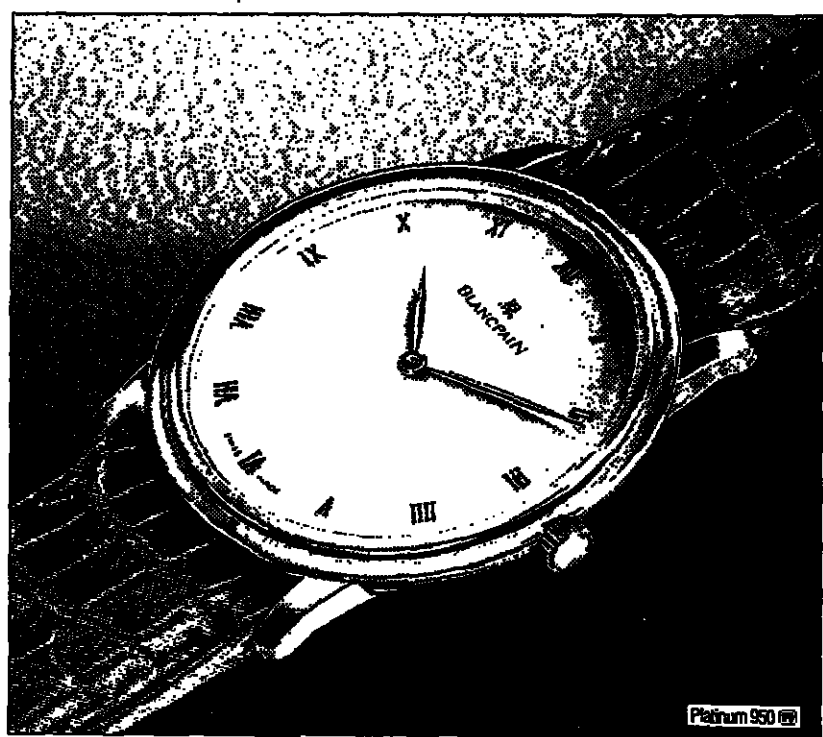
By OUR CITY STAFF

COST savings from earlier reorganisation allowed Avon Rubber, the tyre and automotive components company, to recover sharply in the year to October 3. Profits grew 36 per cent to £9.15 million before exceptional items and tax.

The figures were accompanied by an upbeat statement from Lord Farnham, the chairman, who said there were reasons to be confident about the future. These included the benefits of reorganisation and a growing international spread.

A £208,000 gain reflects a £1.51 million profit from the sale of a half-share in the automotive business, offset by write-downs in the value of investments. Earnings per share before exceptional items rose 40 per cent to 27.9p. An 11.5p final dividend gives a total unchanged at 16.5p.

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Estimate for knock-on job cuts from pit closures lower

■ The employment secretary told a Commons select committee that up to 26,000 jobs could be lost if 31 pits are closed, far fewer than the 70,000 industry estimates

By Jonathan Prynn and Ross Tremain

UP TO 26,000 additional jobs could be lost in local communities and companies dependent on the coal industry if the government proceeds with its plan to close 31 pits, Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary, told MPs yesterday.

The estimate, which was made in a memorandum to the Commons employment select committee, contrasts with estimates of up to 70,000 knock-on job losses made by industry observers.

As well as the 29,500 jobs at the pits, the memorandum identifies a further 17,000 jobs in contracting, supply and other industries that would be put at risk by the closures. Of these, about half are in manufacturing.

Estimates in the memorandum on the scale of the job losses in local communities are couched in cautious terms because of unpredictable factors that could affect the final total. However, the department concludes that between 3,000 and 6,000 jobs in "travel to work" areas around the pits could be wiped out. In addition, a further 3,000 transport jobs are in danger, partly because of the reduced demand for coal from the power generators.

Mining equipment manufacturers told MPs they would be forced to shed more than 15,000 workers if British Coal is allowed to close 31 pits.

In evidence to the Commons trade and industry select committee, the Association of British Mining Equipment Companies (Abmec) said their annual sales will slump from £907 million to just £575 million, the association said.

If its domestic sales base was sharply reduced, the industry might lose its world leadership

role to Germany, and many companies would concentrate their activities overseas.

The gloomy message was contained in submissions that highlight the scale of contraction the mining equipment industry has already undergone. A memorandum compiled by William Morrell, director-general of Abmec, says the closure of 142 British Coal mines between 1983 and 1992 has already presented "extreme difficulties" for equipment makers. Between the end of 1987 and December last year, Abmec's 50 member companies shed 50,000 employees.

The cost of contraction had weakened company balance sheets and swallowed funds that would have been better invested in developing new or improved products, he said.

Until recently, British Coal was the world's largest consumer of mining equipment. That backbone of domestic demand had enabled the industry to become a world leader. But it has made strenuous efforts to build up exports to compensate for declining domestic demand.

British longwall mining equipment dominates deep mines around the world. Half the roof supports and conveyor equipment in American mines was made in Britain. In Mexico, South Africa and Australia, the proportion exceeds 80 per cent, and in Japan, every mine conveyor was made in Britain.

But Miss Beverley Webster, vice-president of Abmec, said British Coal had not placed a single substantial order this year. Moreover, many overseas buyers had suspended buying in the hope of buying surplus machines from British Coal.



Play time: Peter Greenall (left) with chairman Andrew Thomas try the delights of Greenall's 'jungle bungle'

Manweb interims up by a third

By Patricia Tehan

MANWEB, the Chester-based regional electricity company, pushed pre-tax profits up 35 per cent in the half-year to September 30, helped by an £11 million turnaround in its supply business.

The profits increase, from £27.5 million to £37.1 million, was achieved despite the company's decision to hold price rises to 1.9 per cent, below the industry average and under the rate of inflation. Manweb is increasing its interim divi-

dend by 12 per cent, from 5.45p to 6.1p.

John Roberts, chief executive, said the improvement was partly due to a 2 per cent increase in distribution to industrial customers. He said: "There are signs of industry picking up, measured by sales, and we have had significant inward investment."

Manweb won 47 customers in the non-franchise market (consumers of more than one megawatt). Thirteen of these

were from outside the region; six were lost to other companies.

Electricity distribution to the commercial sector grew by under 1 per cent, while units distributed to domestic customers fell by just over 1 per cent, because the spring was warmer than last year.

Manweb is the only regional company not to move into gas-fired power generation. Its only generation projects are wind farms.

Greenalls beer sales still falling

BEER volumes sold in public houses owned by Greenalls Group, the North West public house and hotels company, are still falling as the important Christmas trading season approaches, but the rate of decline is slowing, said Peter Greenall, managing director.

Greenalls' un-audited estimates made at the time of October's £86 million rights issue with pre-tax profits up from £64.1 million to £64.4 million in the year to September 25 after seeing property profits £2.85 million lower. The final dividend is confirmed at 6.93p, making a total up from 11.0p to 11.77p.

A writedown for the group's American hotels to their disposal value leaves an extraordinary charge of £14.9 million, while a similar reduction in the value of the British portfolio cuts the revaluation reserve by £35.6 million.

Tempos, this page

Countrywide sees housing glimmer

ALAN Cherry, chairman of Countrywide Properties, the Essex housebuilder, has spied signs of recovery in the housing market since the government started the attempt to expand the economy this autumn (Martin Waller writes).

Enquiries at the company's sites are up 32 per cent year-on-year and firm reservations 35 per cent ahead. "We reckon

that the low interest rates and all the other things the Chancellor said in his Autumn Statement have had some impact. But we have had two or three false dawns in the last three years," he said. "We're a bit cautious in saying the upturn has started."

Countrywide has again slipped into a full-year loss after being forced to take a

£14.8 million provision against the value of land and property holdings.

A pre-tax deficit of £11.7 million contrasts with a £3.05 million profit last time, but the final dividend of 2.70p is being paid out of reserves, leaving the total maintained at 4.11p. Borrowings remained within limits agreed with the banks.

Capital boost lifts Eagle away from danger

BAT Industries' massive £450 million cash injection into its insurance offshoot, Eagle Star, is not going to pressurise other insurers to follow suit and recapitalise, despite flagging insolvency margins around the industry.

The much-needed and widely expected capital boost has dragged Eagle Star's solvency ratio, a safety net that ensures insurance companies are able to meet their obligations, back from a worryingly low level to one more in line with most of its peers. The injection has not, however, propelled the company into a position of superior solvency.

Far from it. Eagle Star can now boast a ratio above 50 per cent, which puts it up with insurers such as General Accident, at 45 per cent. However, the figures are not directly comparable because Eagle Star's calculation is based on a method more at home on the other side of the Atlantic. By taking the unusual step of discounting loss reserves, the company's solvency margin is flattered by about 10 per cent. M&G uses this approach



Help for Eagle Star: Sir Patrick Sheehy, BAT chief

while Royal Insurance has a quirky corporate structure that favours its figures.

Even after stripping out Eagle Star's discounting, the cash injection is extremely welcome. The solvency margin is no longer languishing at around 20 per cent, a far cry

from the 113 per cent the company boasted in 1985. Most of the decline has been since 1989, when the margin was at 99.9 per cent, and has been experienced by the sector as a whole. The market has been well aware of the pressure on companies' balance

sheets for some time and there has been a willingness to accept today's reduced margins of 40-odd per cent because of the belief that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. The expectation that the herd will follow Commercial Union and a few others to profits in 1993 and onwards has proved sufficient to allay fears over low solvency margins. As a consequence, Eagle Star's competitors have been saved from searching out further means of bolstering shareholders' funds in an unwilling market.

Greenalls

THAT Christmas is arriving later and departing sooner may be good news for the Scrooges among us, but it is no help to a brewing sector battered by the downturn in consumer spending. Greenalls is not alone in hoping that festivities will last longer this year than in 1991.

Greenalls has cash in the bank, after October's rights issue, to take advantage of cheap buying opportunities. But the figures for the last

financial year, trailed in outline at the time of the rights, suggest that market conditions continue to make the going tough.

Distribution is, by the company's own admission, disappointing, despite heavy savings from job cuts, while hotels made gains on occupancy rates in the autumn but at the expense of tariffs. Benefits from lower interest rates will be limited by the decision to lock in much of the debt at 10.5 per cent, and pre-tax profits this year are unlikely to exceed £66 million by much, putting the shares on a forward multiple of 12.6. Immediate gains will be limited.

NFC

NFC's share price moved in several directions after the group reported pre-tax profits of £91 million for the year to October 3, compared with £93.7 million previously.

There was a £14.5 million pension fund credit, which compared with a £4 million credit last time, and redundancy charges above the line were £2.2 million higher at

£11.4 million. There were other one-off, but undisclosed, reorganisation items.

The thrust of the year was, however, that core operating profits in an otherwise difficult period were 3 per cent higher, and despite a modest dip in net earnings, the total dividend rises from 6.25p to 6.55p.

NFC's own "best estimate" of 1993 profits will be given on February 28, but there are early signs that the American economy is picking up, and there is some suggestion that currencies will move in NFC's favour in 1993. Profits from property activities will be a wild card, but elimination of last year's one-off items should see a further, and genuine, profits advance in 1993 to over £100 million.

The shares have long commanded a premium to the market, and there comes a time when the premium has to be questioned. At 266p, down 18p, they currently trade on 17.7 times prospective earnings. NFC shares are sound enough for when world economies recover but are well priced at the moment.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

NFC raises payout as profits dip to £91m

PRE-TAX profits at NFC, the international transport and logistics company, slipped from £93.7 million to £91 million in the 12 months to October 3 but were in line with its own "best view" for the year. Earnings eased from 13.6p a share to 13.1p but the total dividend rises from 6.25p to 6.55p, with a 2.3p final. The shares closed 2p higher at 286p.

Operating profits rose just 1 per cent to £102.7 million, although there was a 3 per cent increase from core businesses to help offset a 23 per cent decline in earnings from property. Interest costs rose from £5 million to £8.4 million after a rise in borrowings resulting from a planned increase in investment. During the year NFC acquired 16 companies in eight countries for a total of £75 million. Jack Mather, chief executive, said the immediate economic future was uncertain but NFC had the financial strength and the right mix of businesses to achieve "satisfactory" results. *Tempos, this page*

Lombard sees no revival

CONSUMER confidence has not yet returned and industrial activity and investment have failed to pick up, Lombard North Central, the finance house, said. The company, part of National Westminster Bank, lifted pre-tax profits from £3.2 million to £89.8 million in the year to end-September, helped by a reduction in provisions for bad and doubtful debts from £171.8 million to £155.2 million. Total assets under its control fell by £500 million, reflecting the effects of recession. Earnings per share jumped to 31.5p from 12.8p.

Qantas bid by BA

BRITISH Airways has made a formal bid to take a 25 per cent share in Qantas, the Australian national airline. At least one other major international carrier, Singapore Airlines, met the deadline imposed by the Australian government for sealed bids. A final decision will probably be made in February. BA, which is thought to have bid about £300 million, points out that it is prevented by Australian law from holding more than a quarter of the shares. The Australian government will retain the controlling interest.

Oil prices slide again

OIL prices tumbled yesterday, extending a slide that has taken them down by 15 per cent in seven weeks because of market concern about excess supply. Traders ignored a Saudi Arabian warning that a correction was in prospect. Futures for the benchmark crude oil, North Sea Brent Blend, fell 12 cents to \$17.82, compared with almost \$21 in mid-October. Traders reacted to news from the American Petroleum Institute that US stocks of distillate — used for heating oil — rose by 3.99 million barrels last week.

Aircraft arm to be sold

GENERAL Dynamics has agreed to sell its tactical military aircraft business to Lockheed for \$1.525 billion in cash. General Dynamics said it expected to make a net gain of about \$650 million on the deal, which is expected to be completed during the first quarter of 1993, subject to regulatory approval. Lockheed will keep the division's present management and workforce, which numbers about 22,000. Lockheed said the acquisition would immediately increase earnings and cash flow.

Shipyard upturn 'near'

THE upturn in world shipbuilding looks set to arrive much earlier than expected and could be established by the end of next year, according to Erik Tonseth, president of Kvaerner, the Norwegian industrial group that owns Govan Shipyard in Glasgow. Mr Tonseth said in London that he had become considerably more optimistic about prospects during the past six months. He expected the Clyde yard to show a small profit next year. It has orders for five chemical carriers that will keep it fully employed until 1995.

Hepworth goes Dutch

HEPWORTH, the building materials group, is to acquire AWB, a Dutch combination boiler business, and some assets of Kiddy BV, a Dutch specialist condensing boiler maker, for £10.2 million. The deal is to be funded from the proceeds of a share placing raising £24.1 million. The balance will be used to strengthen continental European gas boiler operations. Existing shares rose 4p to 263p. AWB, a subsidiary of Mignot de Bloek, makes condensing, free-standing and conventional combination boilers and gas-fired radiators.

Brabant snubs merger

BRABANT Resources, the oil and gas exploration company, has snubbed an attempt by Aberdeen Petroleum, whose interests are in North America, to merge. Aberdeen, which acquired a 9.99 per cent interest in Brabant last month, said there was a recognised need for rationalisation in the industry. A merger would allow the enlarged group to work towards the payment of dividends. Brabant said a merger would offer no synergy and consolidation of assets was not of interest to employees or shareholders.

Protean soars to £1.4m

PROTEAN, the laboratory equipment supplier and water purification specialist formerly known as Elga Group, tripled pre-tax profits to £1.4 million (£462,000) in the six months to end-September and has announced an acquisition and placing. The company is paying £2.1 million for Epsom Glass Industries, a maker of specialist glass products, to be financed through a £2.5 million share placing. Earnings per share were 3.74p (1.94p). There is an interim dividend of 0.9p (0.6p).

Company

Airsprung Furniture I

Pre-tax: £2.32m (£1.7m)

EPS: 11.82p (9.82p)

Div: 3.15p (2.63p)

John Tams Group I

Pre-tax: £379,000

EPS: 1.25p (1.05p)

Div: 1.53p (1.59p)

Thorn Holdings F

Pre-tax: £1.94m (£1.5m)

EPS: 11.89p (9.31p)

Div: Tot: 3.7p (3.25p)

NMC Group I

Pre-tax: £2.9m (£2.3m)

EPS: 2.01p (1.01p)

Div: 0.5p (1.25p)

Stirling Group I

Pre-tax: £1.4m (£0.6m)

EPS: 1.07p (1.03p)

Div: 0.5p (0.5p)

Granger Trust F

Pre-tax: £4.4m loss

EPS: 9.56p loss

Div: 4.05p, mkg 5.25p

Blick (Final)

Pre-tax: £8.6m (£8.3m)

EPS: 28p (21.83p)

Div: 6.2p, mkg 9.2p

Wiltshire furniture

group lifts pre-tax profits

37 per cent. Dividend

covered 3.75 times by earnings.

Profits up from £362,000.

Difficult trading period.

Bone china sales healthy.

Better trading prospects abroad.

Window fittings maker.

Shares rise 11p to 145p.

Final dividend of 2.44p plus

bonus dividend of 0.13p

Packaging company looking to

stronger dollar earnings in

second half. Good rise in

profits from core business.

Profits up 136 per cent due

to inclusion of Ritz Design

and Gifford. Good forward

order book.

Loss after exceptional item

of £5.7m compares with profit

of £1.4m previously. EPS: 8.09p

last time. Previous div: (5.25p)

Last year's total dividend was

8p. Turnover rose from £23.2m to

£30.9m. Contracted future rental

income rose from £68m to £85m

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JERSEY EUROPEAN

The writing on Rowland's wall

Something had to give at Lonrho. The group may be full of prized mining jewels and many another semi-precious business, but profits have been hit by the recession in anything from British conference business to precious metal prices. Lack of domestic profits has raised the tax charge to ridiculous levels, dividends have been cut savagely after 20 years of progress and cash injections from the sale of businesses have barely kept pace with pressures on the balance sheet. At times like that, a company needs friends. Tiny Rowland, Lonrho's aging presiding genius, never seriously bothered to cultivate them in the financial community and has been better known for his enmities. Companies dominated by a single entrepreneurial figure went heavily out of fashion long before the Cadbury rules codified City thinking, leaving Lonrho out on a limb.

By yesterday morning, Lonrho's market value was languishing under £500 million. The latest flock of potential vultures was gathering, with Tan Sri Lim's Malaysian companies building a 7.3 per cent stake and South Africa's Gencor expressing interest in Western Platinum. Ashanti gold and the group's coal interests should they become available. As the group drew up the accounts for its multitude of businesses for the year to end-September, not usually reported until January, the urgent need for a deal must have become evident.

Sadly, it has long seemed likely that the empire built by Mr Rowland would disintegrate in one way or another without him. In true Rowland style, yesterday's complex rights issue deal brings in another weighty personality while leaving the options open for what will happen in the future. Unlike the summer deal that brought £177 million of Libyan money into Metropole, the latest deal has more clearly been struck from a position of weakness. Mr Rowland will give up his prime position on the share register, which has survived challenges from people who could not back their aggressive intentions. A 15 per cent stake buttressed his dominance in the boardroom, but he will remain a powerful force.

At any other time, such a deal would have provoked an outright break-up bid. Today that is no foregone conclusion, though the likes of Lord Hanson will certainly have done their sums. Mr Rowland's willingness to contemplate fundamental change somewhat changes the odds.

Making choices

The latest bolt from the Accounting Standards Board on complex financial instruments shows the dilemma it faces when going for clarity and comparability in accounts. Hard decisions have to be taken about issues on which there are genuine differences and where accounting policies might legitimately vary in the circumstances of different companies. FRED3, which will form the basis for a new compulsory standard next year, contains several examples. To take one, participating preference shares, part of whose return varies with the ups and downs of trade, are to many people the nearest thing to pure ordinary shares. They will now be treated as non-equity with participation rights being effectively a deduction from what is available for true shareholders.

Clear new rules were needed because flexibility led to exploitation, if not abuse. The letter of accounting possibilities was increasingly treated as more important than the spirit, as ever more ingenious wheezes were dreamed up. In stamping them out, the ASB has had to take more basic choices. As in any community from the kindergarten upwards, if people ignore the spirit of a liberal regime, they soon find themselves working under tougher rules that some may not like.

The time to lay down the law on company practices is when a group decides to float on the stock market writes William Kay

The scale of the shareholder rebellion against Alan Sugar has brought into sharp focus the dangers facing investors who try to cage an entrepreneurial tiger. The 1980s produced a formidable jungle of business tigers who launched companies, floated on the stock market and in most cases were shot between the eyes by the toughest recession in 60 years.

Those whose businesses collapsed, or those who were ousted, like Asil Nadir, John Gurn, John Ashcroft, George Walker, George Davies, Sophie Mirman and Gerald Ratner, merely presented investors with acute versions of the perennial problem of spotting winners and losers before they happen.

But Mr Sugar is in a different and more exclusive category. He, along with Richard Branson, Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Harry Goodman, wanted to withdraw from the limelight by going private again. Today, Mr Sugar is expected to find that his plans have failed. Proxy votes counted suggest defeat unless a wave of Sugar supporters arrive in person to vote for him at today's meetings.

Shareholders in Amstrad have, like those before them in Virgin Group, Really Useful Group and International Leisure Group (ILG), been faced with a dilemma: do they let their hero reclaim his business at what many suspect is a rock-bottom price, or do they keep him in his cage in the hope that he will continue to perform for them?

Mr Goodman argued that ILG's profits would be depressed by a forthcoming capital spending programme on new aircraft. In the event, investors made the right decision to let him go, for the recession dragged the company into receivership, owing £380 million.

Sir Andrew and Mr Branson had different reasons for quitting the stock market. They both felt cramped by the requirements to keep a wider body of followers happy with steadily rising profits and a strategy that had at least the patina of logic.

Part of the idea behind floating Really Useful Group had been to put a value on Sir Andrew's copyrights for tax purposes. But he also wanted to diversify the vast cash flow from his creative output into more solid assets.

The aim was to use the quoted paper to assemble a broadly based leisure group that would have been considerably less dependent on Sir Andrew's ability to wake up in the morning and write another smash hit. But, after a few years, he decided that the creative juices still had a good few left in them, and he did not particularly want to share the benefit with all and sundry.

"When it came down to it, Andrew wanted all the toys back in his own



Floated away from stock market: Richard Branson, who bought back Virgin after the 1987 crash

attic," said one of Really Useful's financial advisers.

Mr Branson floated Virgin — minus the airline — in 1986, the same year as Sir Andrew made his move with Really Useful. But within 18 months, he was disillusioned. The 1987 crash had helped to take Virgin's share price down from its original 140p to 90p, and brokers and institutions were complaining that they could not understand where the mercurial Mr Branson was taking the business.

In the circumstances, shareholders were glad to sell the shares back to Mr Branson for 140p — though they might have thought twice had they known he would sell the music side this year for £550 million.

"It's a high-risk activity, investing in a company run by a strong individual," observed Andrew Threadgold, chief executive of Postal Investment Management, which invests on behalf of the Post Office employee pension funds.

"It's a great ride while it lasts, but often the experience is that you tend to come unstuck in the end," he added. Postal, like the Prudential, has come out against Mr Sugar's attempt to buy back Amstrad. But Mr Threadgold accepts the difficulties that such driven spirits as Mr Sugar suffer in trying to serve outside shareholders.

"It's hard for most entrepreneurs to

convert from running their own show to running a public company," said Mr Threadgold. "Some individuals are unable to recognise the importance of outside interests, and find them an irritant."

Any investor naturally wants the best of both worlds: the excitement and rich rewards of getting in on a market newcomer as it soars through the stratosphere, without the financial headaches that often follow.

Sir Adrian Cadbury's committee on corporate governance has tried to write a set of rules for good behaviour that should avoid the worst excesses. The London Stock Exchange has now incorporated these into its listing

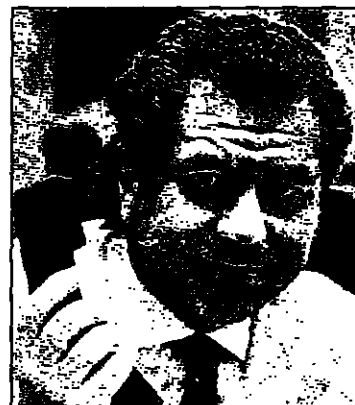
agreement, so that every quoted company will have to comply or explain in its annual report why it is not doing so.

The Cadbury Code places great emphasis on the role of independent non-executive directors, to ensure that the company is performing as it should, and to help resolve conflicts of interest.

Critics of Mr Sugar have pointed out that Amstrad has no non-executive directors, and other strong business characters have either dispensed with such worthies or confined their selections to the mild and malleable. This week, Mr Sugar announced that Amstrad was looking for two non-executive directors.

Sir Adrian admits that his code may deter some would-be tycoons from exposing themselves to the stock market. "We don't want to discourage entrepreneurs," he said, "but if they come to take money from the public they must realise that they are entering into a new series of responsibilities which they have to take seriously. Nevertheless, you will never be able to shut out the determined rogue, because the rules would have to be so strict that it would no longer be possible to run a business."

It is clear that the time to lay down the law is when a company is going public. The directors want something, whether it is paper to use for takeovers, ready access to capital, a



Sugar: search for non-executives

valuation on their holdings for tax purposes or just the fame and glory of a public stage.

So they have every incentive to obey, and indeed they already have to absorb a mass of rules and regulations in connection with their new status, from the Stock Exchange listing agreement to public relations advice to take the family yacht off the books. That is when the budding captain of industry is most likely to be willing to tolerate a few more curbs — and it is also the point where the investing public is likely to be at its most glib, particularly in the full tide of a bull market.

The authorities really have to lean on these people early in the game to get them to adopt structures which Cadbury would recognise," said Mr Threadgold. "Perhaps they should not be allowed to buy back a company they have created."

Brian Winterhood of Winterhood Securities, the leading market-maker in the shares of smaller companies, is understandably more concerned about the distortions caused when a company's founder refuses to release more than a small proportion of the shares onto the market.

"One of the reasons we don't have much liquidity in the shares of these entrepreneurial companies," he explained, "is that maybe only 20 per cent of the share capital is floated and the brokers lay down an understanding that no more should go onto the market."

On the contrary, Mr Winterhood would prefer to see a provision for a second or third tranche of shares to be released, in order to maintain liquidity. This would, however, have to be handled delicately to prevent it from depressing the price.

One anonymous major fund manager argued for a limit on the voting power of a dominant shareholder to, say, 30 per cent, whatever his or her actual stake. This would enable other shareholders to exert a restraining influence. But in the end it is up to investors to be vigilant in protecting their own interests.

Mr Threadgold pointed out that every balanced portfolio should contain a few risky holdings, on the basis that they can lose only 100 per cent of their value while they can multiply many times. "The ideal," he said, "is to have a heavy holding when a company is small and gradually lighten it as the company matures. That is when the problems are likely to arise."

Another golden rule is to pay attention to the directors' shareholdings. That inveterate investor, Jim Slater, sums it up well in his recent book, *The Zulu Principle*: "I like the directors to own a number of shares substantial enough to give them the 'owners' eye, but not so many that they... could at some future stage block a bid. The founder or major shareholder selling a few shares would not worry me — he has to live. If, however, he sold half of his shareholding, that would unnerve me. I love to see more than one director buying, especially those actively involved in the management of the company which pays their salaries."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

AVM seeks high flier

DISILLUSIONED or redundant brokers, bankers or fund managers are being offered a one-off opportunity to diversify into an alternative career, while remaining in the Square Mile. Air Vice Marshall Mike Dicken, the Lord Mayor's private secretary, is advertising for an assistant who will be paid a salary of up to £36,000 a year. Dicken, 56, says the ideal candidate is likely to be in his or her mid-30s "with energy, vitality and imagination and sufficient knowledge of the City and politics to be able to fulfil our purpose of promoting the City of London." Dicken, who took up his job in September, accepts that if he is to recruit someone from a City financial institution it might necessitate their accepting a pay cut. "But the prestige of working for the Lord Mayor would more than make up for it. It's a great job with lots of variety. I am looking for someone who is on their way up the ladder rather than someone who has already achieved it." The job entails liaison between the mayorality, livery companies and business community as well as day-to-day management of the Mansion House.

Carol's No 1

MOTHER-OF-three Carol Barrazone has landed the top job in equity syndication at BZW and is being hailed by her new employer as the only woman in the City to hold that lofty position. Barrazone, whose children are aged from



two to nine years, will, with effect from next Monday, become equity syndication manager at BZW, responsible for the day-to-day management of the firm's equity syndicate function. "There is a woman in the number two position at Goldman Sachs but as far as we are aware there is no other woman in the City who is overall head of equity syndication," says a delighted BZW spokesman. Barrazone left Swiss Bank Corporation in September, after 13 years. She was head of its investor coverage group, in charge of the origination and distribution of derivatives and structured products to investment institutions in Europe and she also played a key role in the integration of American derivatives firm O'Connor into SBC. Her new position will, she explains, involve less selling to institutions and more co-ordination internally, with clients and with competitors. She decided to leave SBC because she did not agree with reorganisational changes

there. "I was not happy with the politics or the reorganisation," she says.

Major warning

WITH the shadow of both the Edinburgh summit and the Commons announcement about the Prince and Princess of Wales's marriage looming over him, John Major still found time yesterday to crack a joke about the British economy. After his meeting with European employers' and union leaders, the prime minister noted wryly that the last time he had seen them — separately, rather than in yesterday's first-ever joint meeting — was on September 15, the day before Black Wednesday and Britain's withdrawal from the European exchange-rate mechanism. He warned them that he would be watching the markets closely today — and that if anything like that happened again, then that would be the last time they would be let in to see him. Ever.

Bank book

LADBROKES reports a surge of betting interest in the past week on who will succeed Robin Leigh-Pemberton as the next Governor of the Bank of England, with Eddie George and Sir David Scholey emerging as the joint favourites. Other runners include Sir David Walker, Sarah Hogg, and Sir Jeremy Morse, with outside chances, at 20-1, being given to Sir Nicholas Goodison, Lord Alexander and Nigel Lawson.

CAROL LEONARD

Out of step on bosses' pay, perks and pay-offs

From Mr Geoffrey Mills
Sir, Sir Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Business Letters, December 4) is out of step in decrying the pay-offs to directors leaving Trafalgar House, which averaged under a million pounds per man.

For more than a decade the keystone of government policy for stimulating competitive performance has been its respect for the perception that big men will only perform better if they are paid and protected better and better. During the same period, the Institute of Directors' over-riding contribution

to improving standards of directorship has been the resolute support of that perception.

In harmony with both, the Cadbury Committee has just produced some "no change, chaps" proposals which will in practice ensure that there is no disturbance to the established protections. And Pro Nod policies for selecting non-executives, recently publicised, will also assist in preserving this status quo by ensuring the appointment of non-executives who are "more of what we have already got". Meanwhile, working in the USA, Dr

Tony O'Reilly receives \$75 million in one year for just one of his many roles. The message is clear: the pay, perks and pay-offs of British directors are still far too small to be able to stimulate good performance. They must be far bigger and better.

After all, the government, IoD, Cadbury Committee and Pro Nod can't all just be confusing each other, can they?
Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY MILLS,
43 Whetstone Close,
Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Bank managers have turned away from their traditional roles

From Mr David R. Brent
Sir, Following Mr Covins' letter (November 24), and the various published articles and correspondence about the attitudes adopted by banks towards small businesses, I am of the opinion that these days, the high street bank manager is little more than an insurance salesman whose primary function is to sell the various financial products of the banks, rather than take the time to gain an understanding of the real problems facing small businesses, and how these businesses operate and survive. This view is confirmed by several bank managers of my acquaintance who complain that their "traditional" discretionary powers are gradually being taken away from them, and that greater emphasis is being placed on measuring their success and profitability by the number of financial packages that are sold to customers.

When I first started my business (as a sole proprietor of a public relations and advertising consultancy), I wanted to set up a business account and also needed a

small loan of £5,000 in order to buy some computer equipment. I prepared a very detailed business plan outlining my market research, business philosophy etc, and took it round the high street banks. With one exception, they all turned straight to my cash-flow and revenue forecasts, and declared, there and then, that they would be happy to take me on as a business customer and sort out my pensions, investments, insurances, and so on. The one exception was the bank with which I eventually placed my account. I was seen by the branch manager (a more mature person this time), and he took the time to read my plans thoroughly — he, at least, did take a real interest in how I was proposing to achieve my aims. We were able to set up the account and he has since shown great understanding about my business. It is becoming common practice amongst the banks to move business accounts into so-called Regional Business Banking Centres, rather than keep them in the high street branches. In my view, banks

may be financial experts, but generally they seem to be distancing themselves from their business customers, and show very little interest or understanding in the way that businesses operate.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID R. BRENT,
22 Howey Lane,
Congleton, Cheshire.

Chatset faith

From Mr Anthony Holland
Sir, Your report on December 3 indicates that underwriters are angry at the figures produced by Chatset and describes them as dangerous. I have no idea of the methodology used by Chatset, indeed it could be a crystal ball, but I have learned to my cost that their estimates are far more accurate than those produced by my members' agent and the underwriters of the syndicates I am on. My fingers are crossed that this time the market practitioners could be right.
Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY HOLLAND,
Windlesham Manor,
Windlesham, Surrey.

A faster hearing for Lloyd's names

From Mr Valentine Powell
Sir, In her December 8 letter, Marilyn Boorman urges individual names at Lloyd's to pool their experience and come out fighting. She mentions problems with stop-loss recoveries and "compensation for many fundamental issues".

The Association of Lloyd's Members (ALM) has long campaigned for the redress of names' complaints and Lloyd's greater recognition of their rights and interests. The ALM has initiated and supported names' action groups to pursue collective grievances and, in close consultation with Lloyd's, ALM chairman Neil Shaw has recently promoted a number of working parties. Two of these are seeking resolution of the problem of open years and the possible settlement by negotiation of the major disputes between

names and their agents — both issues at the heart of many members' anxieties.

Additionally, the ALM is running a series of conferences across the country to address critical decisions faced by names, as well as a full programme of meetings on topical issues. Members attending these gain considerably from the opportunity to share their experiences with other names, as well as from the formal agenda. Personal stop-loss is a key issue on these occasions, and we are pressing hard for faster processing of names' claims. I invite Mrs Boorman to join the ALM without delay.
Yours faithfully,
VALENTINE POWELL,
Chief Executive,
Association of
Lloyd's Members,
16 St Mary at Hill, EC3.

Abbey should use £103m for compensation

From Rev. John D. Rawlings
Sir, Lindsay Cook, in the article entitled "Abbey sells unclaimed shares" (December 5) has failed to mention the unfair treatment of those who were second-named in joint accounts at the time and were thus excluded when the shares

were made available. Surely now is the time for the £103 million to be used to put right this injustice.

Yours faithfully,
J.D. RAWLINGS,
14 Huddington Glade,
Yateley, Camberley,
Surrey.

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Series Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec										Series Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec										Series Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec										Series Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec Mar Jun Aug Feb May Jan Dec																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
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5	10205	10215	10225	10233	10245	10255	10266	10277	10285	10295	10305	10315	10325	10333	10345	10355	10366	10377	10385	10395	10405	10415	10425	10433	10445	10455	10466	10477	10485	10495	10505	10515	10525	10533	10545	10555	10566	10577	10585	10595	10605	10615	10625	10633	10645	10655	10666	10677	10685	10695	10705	10715	10725	10733	10745	10755	10766	10777	10785	10795	10805	10815	10825	10833	10845	10855	10866	10877	10885	10895	10905	10915	10925	10933	10945	10955	10966	10977	10985	10995	11005	11015	11025	11033	11045	11055	11066	11077	11085	11095	11105	11115	11125	11133	11145	11155	11166	11177	11185	11195	11205	11215	11225	11233	11245	11255	11266	11277	11285	11295	11305	11315	11325	11333	11345	11355	11366	11377	11385	11395	11405	11415	11425	11433	11445	11455	11466	11477	11485	11495	11505	11515	11525	11533	11545	11555	11566	11577	11585	11595	11605	11615	11625	11633	11645	11655	11666	11677	11685	11695	11705	11715	11725	11733	11745	11755	11766	11777	11785	11795	11805	11815	11825	11833	11845	11855	11866	11877	11885	11895	11905	11915	11925	11933	11945	11955	11966	11977	11985	11995	12005	12015	12025	12033	12045	12055	12066	12077	12085	12095	12105	12115	12125	12133	12145	12155	12166	12177	12185	12195	12205	12215	12225	12233	12245	12255	12266	12277	12285	12295	12305	12315	12325	12333	12345	12355	12366	12377	12385	12395	12405	12415	12425	12433	12445	12455	12466	12477	12485	12495	12505	12515	12525	12533	12545	12555	12566	12577	12585	12595	12605	12615	12625	12633	12645	12655	12666	12677	12685	12695	12705	12715	12725	12733	12745	12755	12766	12777	12785	12795	12805	12815	12825	12833	12845	12855	12866	12877	12885	12895	12905	12915	12925	12933	12945	12955	12966	12977	12985	12995	13005	13015	13025

Portfolio

From your Portfolio Plus card check your right share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall gain or loss. If it matches the daily dividend figure, it's correct. If it doesn't, check the daily price money stand. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Ellis & Everard	Chemicals	1.00
2	Saatchi	Advertising	1.00
3	Reckitt	Industrial	1.00
4	Electromech	Electrical	1.00
5	Greene	Breweries	1.00
6	Procter	Consumer Goods	1.00
7	Hewlett-Packard	Electronics	1.00
8	Rylands	Construction	1.00
9	Imperial	Food	1.00
10	Alm	Industrial	1.00
11	Wessex	Banking	1.00
12	Anglia TV	Media	1.00
13	Carlyle	Industrial	1.00
14	Milner	Industrial	1.00
15	Medway	Industrial	1.00
16	Glaxo	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
17	Johnson & Johnson	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
18	Unilever	Consumer Goods	1.00
19	Roche	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
20	Novartis	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
21	Glaxo	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
22	Roche	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
23	Novartis	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
24	Glaxo	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
25	Roche	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
26	Novartis	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
27	Glaxo	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
28	Roche	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
29	Novartis	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
30	Glaxo	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
31	Roche	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
32	Novartis	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
33	Glaxo	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
34	Roche	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
35	Novartis	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
36	Glaxo	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
37	Roche	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
38	Novartis	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
39	Glaxo	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
40	Roche	Pharmaceuticals	1.00

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game, you can claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 (between 10.00am and 5.00pm) (see the Sunday Times for full details).

There were no valid winners for yesterday's Portfolio Plus prize. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Barclays	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	HSBC	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	London & Lancashire	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Paragon	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Prudential	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Standard Bank	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Windsor	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
12	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
13	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Yorkshire	100.00	4.50	12.5

BREWERIES

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Adnams	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Beck's	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Carlsberg	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Guinness	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Heineken	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	King	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Miller	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Newcastle	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Stout	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
12	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
13	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Watney	100.00	4.50	12.5

BUILDING, ROADS

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
12	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
13	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5

BUSINESS SERVICES

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
12	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
13	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5

ELECTRICITY

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
12	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
13	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5

FINANCE, LAND

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
12	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
13	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
12	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
13	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5

FOODS

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
12	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
13	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5

HOTELS, CATERERS

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
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13	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
14	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
15	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
16	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
17	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
18	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
19	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
20	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5

INDUSTRIALS

No	Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
2	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
3	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
4	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
5	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
6	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
7	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
8	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
9	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
10	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5
11	Amey	100.00	4.50	12.5

Artists get down to business

Volunteer business advisers are helping arts organisations to manage with money. One of them will this week win a new award, says Alison Roberts

TS. Eliot, for most of his life a banker, was a case apart. Artist and businessman rarely meet on a professional level, and although the business world is increasingly prepared to support the arts financially when profits allow, the man of the theatre remains something of a dreamy figure, unconcerned with book-keeping and accounting systems.

Three years ago, the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts (ABSA) set out to change this, recognising that arts organisations were going to have to manage a tight financial ship in a professional way. It was also obvious that no fringe theatre company or literary society could afford to pay consultancy fees; ABSA, with feet already in the two camps, decided to pair the arts manager with the business executive in a skills transfer exercise.

On Friday, one of the advisers, recruited on a voluntary basis to spend perhaps a couple of hours at the ballet company or sculpture trust every fortnight, will win the new Arthur Andersen award at the annual ABSA prize-giving ceremony, this year held in association with *The Times*. Does this official blessing mean that the scheme has been a success? And what can arts organisations, often run on a collective, perhaps haphazard way in the past, learn from people who talk a completely different language of profit and loss, finance and planning?

Kath Abrahams, general manager at the Bloomsbury Theatre, in London, says that her business adviser provided an outside ear and a fresh eye.

The theatre's staff structure needed a rethink: although the Bloomsbury employs only 11 full-time workers, there was scope for a complete job description rewrite in a system that seemed to isolate its management from the stage-floor.

"I was worried that if an individual left the theatre they would take all their skills with them and no one else would know how to do that particular job," Ms Abrahams says. "Caroline Whatham, the business adviser, and I worked on all the weak links, so that now jobs are far more inter-linked. We did little things like teach more of the staff how to work the box office computer, taught staff about the marketing department and revised the graduate trainee course. I was left to do most of the work, which was good, and Caroline acted as a catalyst." The two women met over the course of about five months — the adviser gave the theatre manager "homework" and monitored progress.

The project was not intended to produce immediate financial benefits. "I always watched every penny anyway," Ms Abrahams says. But she believes the balance sheet will look healthier in the long run. "It has made me feel much more secure about what I am doing, and it has given us more energy for the future and made me more marketable. The brilliant thing was that Caroline didn't want to step on my toes. I had requested her help."

The Bloomsbury theatre is fairly large, seating 500 people and with a budget of about £250,000. Sometimes, arts organisations in search of help are running on much smaller budgets; to make something work with so little cash, and to make a silk purse from a potential pig's ear, is the challenge.

Stephen Clarke, a senior manager at Coopers & Lybrand, took a trainee with him to the Opera Factory and, altogether, the time voluntarily given to the arts company cost £10,000 — more than many arts groups turn over in a year.

The Opera Factory, an offshoot from the London Sinfonietta, was a brand new enterprise desperately needing professional advice. Mr Clarke created an accounting system for the company from scratch. "We went right through the process, with them — from writing a cheque to inputting it into the accounts and working out the total expenditure."

He helped the company to choose computer software and, without implying that the arts group were technophobic, wrote an idiot's guide to computer use. Mr Clarke describes himself as not a particularly enthusiastic arts lover, although a theatre



Stage partnership: the Opera Factory has been advised by Coopers & Lybrand

and opera-goer. He took on the Opera Factory as a professional challenge and as a learning experience.

"Personally, what do you get out of it? You talk to people who are in a completely different business environment. It is about as far removed as you can get from dealing with multinationals. You work with the company throughout the project in great depth and see it right through to the end."

Coopers & Lybrand also had its name printed on Opera Factory leaflets throughout the season, incidentally. In that sense, the *Business in the Arts*

scheme works as a form of sponsorship, although it does not cost the firm anything. In fact, David Hall, who helps run the ABSA scheme, believes that employees are rejuvenated by being part of an arts organisation, for however short a period.

The scheme is not operational across the whole country yet, but affiliate offices are branching out from London. Those in Southampton, Birmingham and Merseyside all manage similar placement operations. Nationwide, there are 70 businesses and arts pairings currently beavered away, since the scheme's inception. 200 matches have been made, and the numbers are doubling every two years. Advisers come from big and small companies and some, such as Ms Whatham, are freelance. Some of the big scraps have come from IBM, AT&T, Grant Thornton and ICI Investments.

If teaching someone how to use a spreadsheet sounds like small beer, ABSA will say it is best to remember that large projects have small beginnings. That spreadsheet may have played a vital part in the marvellous production of *Otello*, the wonderful modernist exhibition or the widely acclaimed literature festival.

Shortlisted candidates for the Arthur Andersen award are Michael Dunnigan, Account Director, The Sales Machine (UK), for his work on marketing with VOLTaire, the London-based contemporary ballet company.

Andrew Hadjilofis, Senior negotiator, BP Exploration, for his work on a long-term plan with the Scottish Sculpture Trust.

Iain Pelling, Executive consultant, KPMG Peat Marwick, for his work on finance and planning with Kaboodle Productions and the Theatre Resource Centre, both based in Liverpool.

Norman Rush, Business service manager, IBM, for his work on a development plan with Geese Theatre Company, based in Birmingham.

Caroline Whatham, Director, Caroline Whatham Associates, for her work on organisational structure with London's Bloomsbury Theatre.

David Tweedie, ASB chairman, said: "All users of accounts should benefit from the greater clarity and certainty that the proposals provide."

The ASB proposes stripping various instruments of equity status and breaking down the shareholders' funds remaining between equity and non-equity. A share will not count as equity where any of its rights to dividends or redemption are for a limited amount unrelated to a company's assets, profits or dividends.

As a result, the convertible bond and its sophisticated offspring, the convertible capital bond, originally designed by SG Warburg, the investment house, to act as debt for tax purposes and equity for accounting purposes, have lost their equity status. Companies affected by the change include British Airways, BICC and Reckitt & Colman, which in its latest accounts, for the year to January 4, 1992, shows £200 million of bonds as part of total net assets of £719.61 million. BICC's accounts show its £177 million convertible capital bond is treated as equity, although disclosed as a separate item below shareholders' funds of £374 million. In all three cases the bonds will, under the new rules, have to appear as liabilities. BICC is

Rule changes will make levels of gearing soar

By Sarah Bagnall

SEVERAL prominent companies will see loan gearing levels soar as a result of the Accounting Standards Board's latest exposure draft (ED), which puts a stop to finance directors bolstering shareholders' funds by treating various hybrid financial instruments as equity on the balance sheet. Published today, Financial Reporting Exposure Draft 3 — Accounting for Capital Instruments — aims to clear up the complex area of the distinction between debt and equity. In the process, it affects a mass of quasi-equity instruments, such as auction market preferred shares (Amps), convertible capital bonds and deep discount bonds. Preference shares will count as non-equity, even when they have participation rights.

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also affected by the ASB decision that preference shares issued by a subsidiary but guaranteed by the parent company should be treated as debt. BICC's accounts show that, of £134 million of minority interest, £33 million is guaranteed redeemable preference capital that the ED says should be reclassified as debt.

Amps, which regularly have their return varied through an auction process, fall into the new category of "non-equity shares". As a result, a reworking of BET's latest balance sheet would result in equity being cut by £287 million, leaving £114 million. Since then, however, BET has redeemed its Amps. Perkins Foods and Ramens have non-equity shares but the amounts are not identifiable from the respective accounts.

The ASB has changed its stance slightly on when an instrument can be classed as long-term debt. After representations from industry, in response to the discussion paper preceding the exposure draft, the ASB has said a one-year loan with an agreement with the lender to extend the maturity on the same terms can be classed as long-term debt. But this still excludes commercial paper programmes, which some firms, including First Leisure Corporation, have treated as long-term debt on their balance sheets. The ASB invites comments on the ED by March 15.



Tweedie: more clarity

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Applications should be made in writing, with an accompanying curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, to the Assistant Federation Secretary, British Postgraduate Medical Federation, 33 Millman Street, London WC1N 3EL. A copy of the job description will be made available upon request. (071) 831 6222 ext 152.

The closing date for applications is 4 January, 1993.

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ACCOUNTANCY

Ripples of hope on liability

By ANDREW COLQUHOUN

EXPOSURE of auditors to litigation has become the most serious problem facing accountancy firms in the Anglo-Saxon economies. In America, the profession is estimated to face aggregate claims for damages of about \$30 billion. In Australia, an A\$1.1 billion claim has been made against auditors after the collapse of a single group of companies.

Claims of this size are way beyond the limits of insurance cover. If the courts backed any of these mega-claims, a big firm could collapse, bringing chaos in the business extending to other countries. In some parts of America, auditors refuse to take on some classes of client because of high risks of subsequent litigation.

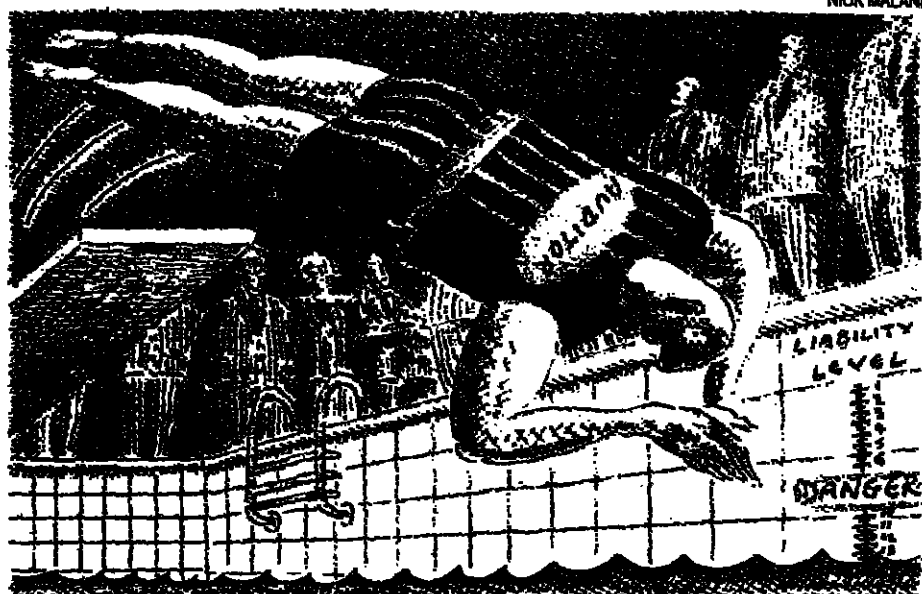
Australia may just provide a first glimmer of hope. In 1988, someone was injured diving into a municipal pool in New South Wales because the water was too shallow. He successfully sued the local authority. This pushed the NSW state government to introduce a Professional Standards Bill.

If passed, it will effectively cap the liability of local authorities and of professionals such as accountants. The federal attorney general is investigating whether such an approach could be applied

throughout Australia. If so, it could be the start of a rational solution in other countries to the open-ended liability of accountants, which is made worse by the legal concept of joint and several liability. This holds that where there are several defendants to a damages suit, any one is potentially liable to pay all damages awarded, irrespective of relative contributions to the tort. Accountancy firms are highly vulnerable after the collapse of a company or bankruptcy of its directors.

Thanks to professional indemnity insurance, only they are likely to have pockets deep enough to be worth picking by aggrieved parties and their lawyers. In few such cases does negligence by accountancy firms contribute greatly to the loss claimed by third parties.

One or two sensible legal judgments have emerged, despite the joint and several concept. In the AWA case, an Australian company claimed against its auditors for failing to report on the company's inadequate controls on foreign exchange operations. The supreme court in New South Wales concluded this year the engagement of the auditor by the company did not absolve it from a responsibility to look



NICK MALAND

after its own interests. It asked: "Why should the negligent auditor be exposed to payment of the whole of the loss where much of the damage lies at the door of senior management of the plaintiff?" The financial apportionment of liability in this case should be determined next year. With luck, it will confirm a company's management and directors bear the greatest responsibility for its financial health.

A California Supreme Court decision in the Osborne case

made clear auditors were only liable to their clients and known users of the financial statements they audit, not to third party investors. Otherwise auditors face claims disproportionate to fault, which could not "fairly be justified on moral, ethical or economic grounds". These judgments contrast with the alarming situation highlighted in a rare joint paper by the Big Six US firms about the liability crisis there. This identifies a system of abuse in which plaintiffs

lawyers frequently settle with prime culprits, who do not have a defence or much money, at a fraction of what they should pay, then pursue professionals for the balance, irrespective of their degree of culpability.

In 1991 US firms spent 9 per cent of auditing and accounting revenue defending and settling lawsuits. The firms argue that the bad effects on auditing, financial reporting and capital markets are already evident and the joint and several concept imposes "a tort tax" on US business.

There are few votes for legislators in reforms to help auditors. They may need to agree a liability limit with each client, for the good of business as a whole.

The public may look for *quid pro quo*: more effective ways for auditors to provide timely warnings of companies' future problems, or other extensions of their responsibilities. The Auditing Practices Board green paper suggests just such a wider role for audit, but that would not be feasible if it merely increased vulnerability to litigation.

The author is secretary of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Mrs Antrobus would have felt quite at home

ANYONE who wanted to see an example of how the present council of the English ICA is almost incapable of producing a swift and speedy decision on anything should have popped into the council chamber last week.

Had you picked up an agenda and taken a look at the main and meatiest item you would have applauded the recommendations which were laid out for all to see. At last the council was getting down to the heart of opening up the institute's procedures to the public. The issue was the central one for a profession — the sometimes embarrassing but always vital procedure of disciplining members who have transgressed the profession's rules.

Everyone on council knows how important it is. When you have been under attack for so long for appearing to ignore the public interest something like opening up the disciplinary procedure will win many plus points.

The first recommendation before council was the matter of "giving support to fuller reporting of disciplinary cases". As the rest of the documentation made clear, "at present it is often difficult to get a clear picture of the case from brief reports which merely recite the terms of formal complaints which have been found proved and details of the orders made". Anyone who has ploughed through the arcane announcements of the disciplinary committee knows full well that "opaque" would be a mild criticism of them. As it happened a fuller statement on one particular public interest case had been issued the week before. This related to the proceedings against Michael Jordan and Richard Stone of Coopers & Lybrand over alleged conflict of interest in taking on the Polly Peck administration. This stated plainly both men had been fined the maximum possible amount and both had "failed without good reason" to follow the relevant ethical guidance. It also, for the first time, provided extracts from the chairman's summing up. This revealed the conflict of interest "would have been apparent to you at an early stage had you taken proper steps to consider the position" and "there has been no satisfactory explanation" for the information which they had set before the court prior to their appointment as administrators "being so inadequate".

This is precisely the sort of information the public ought to be learning when members of the profession receive a dressing-down from their peers. The second recommendation was



ROBERT BRUCE

that hearings should be open to the public if the accused requests it or if "the case involves a matter of public concern". For a committee which sought to exclude one of its members from the Jordan and Stone hearings this is brave stuff. Needless to say, this was where the council's feet began to grow cold.

The result was a labyrinthine debate of counter-amendment after counter-amendment and confusion on confusion. At one point what had been a good, though lengthy, speech from Douglas Lambias was interrupted on a point of order from the vice-chairman of the Conservative party, Tim Smith wanted to know if the president knew of any procedural device which would curtail "a long, tedious and self-indulgent speech". The president did not and said he was himself enjoying it, and so it should continue.

In the end an amendment agreeing to proceed with the first recommendation but put the second on ice until the effect of the first could be analysed was passed. This may seem mild. But is devastating. To open hearings to the public requires a change to the by-laws. This can only be done at a June extraordinary meeting and, if passed, then goes to the Privy Council for ratification. So the effect of a seemingly innocuous and cautious amendment means public hearings are unlikely to become reality before 1995. As one council member remarked later, the decision-making process reminds you of wading through four-foot snowdrifts. This would be all very well if we were dealing with the parish council proceedings in *The Archers* and the biggest worry was Mrs Antrobus' amnesia over the proofs of the church magazine. But we are not. We are dealing with Europe's biggest professional accounting body. Next month the council meeting forms part of a three-day council conference. As a matter of great urgency the council should dust down last year's rejected Green report on the institute's structure and implement it forthwith. Never mind if it returns it out of existence by passing power to a slimmer executive council while it becomes a twice-yearly advisory conference. The point is not to have a bit of a chat over amendments, it is to give the public, and other members of the profession, some measure of confidence in the profession's actions.

The author is Associate Editor of *Accountancy Age*.

Swinson docks at Stoy

SIX months after being ousted as managing partner of Binder Hamlyn, and after talking to a dozen firms and considering career offers outside the profession, reforming ICAEW stalwart Chris Swinson has found a new home as a partner at Stoy Hayward, which is steadily restoring its image after a series of client embarrassments. Swinson, long in demand as an expert court witness, will help build up Stoy's litigation support department when he joins on January 1. Paul Higgs, senior partner at Stoy, stresses that the firm will support Swinson's work for

the profession. He is already an FRC member, chairs the ICAEW's financial reporting group and must be a strong future candidate for the ICAEW presidency, although he missed out in the first election on the ladder and will not try again next spring. Meanwhile, he still has a writ out against Binder, technically seeking dissolution of the national and London partnerships as well as damages. Swinson says he viewed having to go that far "with considerable distaste and regret" and hopes to clear up the affair as soon as possible.

Own goal

HOW embarrassing. No sooner had Coopers & Lybrand been chosen by the European Community to review the impact of EC policy and legislation on sport than it was thrashed 2-1 at volleyball by a team of Brussels Eurocrats. "We were going to play them at football but found they had three professional footballers in their team," says Frank McFadden of the firm's EC advisory unit in Brussels. "We had a 6ft 10ins German and still lost." McFadden, a rugby player, aims to have the

last laugh. "We'll play them at football, then rugby — anything until we win." And the subject of the firm's initial pilot study? Basketball.

A MAN on his death-bed asks his priest, his solicitor and his accountant to put £10,000 each in his grave so that he has something to get him started the next time round. At the funeral, the priest counts out £8,500. "Church repairs," he says sheepishly. "He won't miss it." The solicitor counts out £5,000. "Problems at work," he mutters. "He won't know." The accountant writes out a cheque.

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THEATRE page 34
Andrew Woodall as
Marcel, a flamboyant
transvestite, at the Royal
Court Theatre Upstairs

ARTS

POP page 35

Shirley Bassey: the
singer was the subject
of flowery tributes at an
Albert Hall concert



CINEMA: Geoff Brown reviews Macaulay Culkin as the little boy in peril (again) in *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York*

Mack is back, on the same old track

Home Alone 2: Lost in New York.
Odeons Marble Arch, West End (PG)
Into The West.
Odeon Haymarket (PG)
Elenya, Renoir (PG)
Traces of Red.
MGMs Oxford Street, Pantons Street (15)

Just before Macaulay Culkin prepares himself for his final showdown with the comic villains of *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York*, he utters something big and important. "You can mess with a lot of things," Mack says, with the implacable force of a four-foot John Wayne, "but you can't mess with kids at Christmas."

The film-makers themselves break Culkin's law by stretching the year's chief seasonal entertainment to two hours: don't they know the capacity of excited little bladders? Yet in most respects, kids get what they seem to want: a copy of the original plot: a resourceful hero who shouts "Yikes!"; extreme violence with paint cans, tool chests, staple guns and bricks; the same jokes thumped home four times. But in two weeks in North America this film took \$78 million at the box-office.

Before Mack got left in Chicago while his large, noisome family whizzed off for Christmas in Paris. This time they are Florida-bound; but straggling Mack mistakenly boards a plane to New York, carrying his father's wallet. Ensnared at the Plaza Hotel, he meets old foes Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern, bungling crooks who plan to snatch the takings at Eddie Bracken's twinkling toy shop. The crude, laborious finale takes place in a relative's empty brownstone house, undergoing renovation.

John Hughes, the writer-producer, and Chris Columbus, the director, show considerable gall in copying so much of the original, with only a few things diversified (such as Tim Curry's snobby cutler) and what most sets adult teeth on-edge is the film's sickly dollop of sentiment, which first lands on veteran Eddie Bracken's head and then falls upon poor

Brenda Fricker — making an unwise Hollywood debut as a homeless Pigeon Lady who tells the tale to follow the star in his heart. The perfect moment to head for the exit.

Luckily, *Into The West* whisks us off the sequel treadmill. When did you last see a magnificent white horse kicking through the walls in a horse-kicking block, or eating popcorn in a cinema? When did you last catch that sultry siren Ellen Barkin at a dingy chip shop, head bundled up in a scarf, American vowels wrapped in a Celtic lilt?

No pigeon-hole suits this flawed but ultimately engaging film, written by Jim Sheridan, the director of *My Left Foot*. It is part children's adventure, part revamped Western, part social drama and part Irish whimsy about Tír na nÓg. This is a white horse that gallops forth from its undersea home to befriend two children of a former gypsy (Gabriel Byrne), who is lost to his tribe in a grim Dublin flat, consumed with grief for a long-dead wife.

A lesser director might have capsized under the script's burden, but Mike Newell (a late replacement for Robert Dornhelm) takes everything in his stride. Newell turned on the gentle charm for *Enchanted April*, then let loose the dogs of war in the Labour party's election broadcast about Jennifer's ear. Here he comes through smiling, helped by American cameraman Tom Siegel, who views the Irish landscapes with a fresh eye.

Barkin's contribution is curious. Apart from her off-screen status as Gabriel Byrne's wife, she was clearly cast as *Widow Dressing* for the American market. So why keep her hidden for 50 minutes, and then give her little to do? At first Sheridan's script keeps the plot hidden, too; only after a flurry of scene-setting do we settle into the main drama of Ossie and Tio, the



Old comic foes reunited on new territory: Macaulay Culkin with Joe Pesci (centre) and Daniel Stern in Chris Columbus's *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York*

children, striking out into western Ireland on their magic white horse, with father and a nifty police chief in pursuit.

Clarin Fitzgerald and Ruaidhrí Conroy, as the boys, are accomplished child actors, perhaps Conroy veers too much towards the cute. But the film largely avoids the bog of sentiment, and the plot gains strength as Sheridan and Newell create a twilight world where reality shades into fantasy.

Into The West was shot in Ireland with strong British participation, though the principal backer was the American company Miramax.

Steve Gough's *Elenya*, set in rural Wales, was made for £700,000 with British and German resources, but largely shot, for tax shelter reasons, in Luxembourg.

We get our money's worth, though. This is a film of great beauty, simplicity and emotional resonance. On the surface, not a huge amount happens: a lonely Welsh-Italian girl, farmed out to an embittered aunt in the war, becomes intimate with an injured German airman she finds and keeps secret in the woods. The key drama occurs inside the characters, caught in hesitations, gestures and

eye movements. Luckily, Gough cast as the heroine Pascale Delafosse Jones, a 12-year-old girl of Welsh and French parents, with a rare ability to make visible her inner life.

Gough avoids the visual excess to which many first-time directors succumb. He selects images with care, extracting full value from the exploding plane seen from *Elenya*'s bedroom window, or the blood that drips mysteriously from a forest tree. High-contrast photography adds enormous atmosphere to a film with little dialogue; for *Elenya* and her vulnerable German soldier

can barely communicate through words, while aunt Maggie (played a little too broadly by Sue Jones-Davies) only snaps out complaints.

Elenya is co-produced by the British Film Institute, often the champion of the over-ambitious or wilfully obscure. But Gough's film is refreshingly direct in style and appeal: ends and means fuse. More, please.

And less, please, of *Traces of Red*, a potboiling thriller best left for video fiends. Who wants to drag themselves out on a cold night, slap down £6, and get nothing but James Belushi, Hollywood's dullest

leading man, droning through a stupid Palm Beach caper? Life and money are just too short.

Belushi plays a hardboiled, hard-living detective, investigating the murder of flirtatious girls. There is one chief clue: anonymous letters from the killer, typed on a damaged daisy-wheel printer, sealed with "Ruby Red" lipstick. Lorraine Bracco and other suspects swirl like bears around honey. But for all we care the villain might as well be the Third Bystander on the Right. This nonsense hails from Jim Piddock (writer) and Andy Wolk (director): names to note and avoid.

CINEMA: David Robinson on a silent film classic, to be screened on Sunday with a new musical score

Saint reborn from the ashes

Dreyer abstracts the psychological drama from its physical surroundings. We are never conscious of the whole geography of the rooms in which the events take place — only the faces of Jeanne and her persecutors, generally shown in extreme close-up.

Dreyer was born in Copenhagen in 1889. A varied career as café pianist, book-keeper, journalist and balloon pilot eventually led to directing for the cinema. His early films were intelligent, with exceptional psychological insight, but in no way promised the singular personality of this.

Dreyer's reputation led to an invitation from the French Société Générale de Films, committed to art film production, to make a

picture about some character from French history. Jeanne d'Arc had become a topic of interest following her somewhat tardy canonisation by the Vatican in 1920. (Shaw wrote *St Joan* in 1924.)

Dreyer laboured over his film for two years. Remarkably for a silent picture, *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc* depends on dialogue: titles and images are juxtaposed with confident rhythm. The script was based on the original transcript of Jeanne's interrogation.

The stark, white settings, with their geometric, even Expressionist, forms, were designed by Iwan Hugo. The actors — who included the young Michel Simon and Antonin Artaud — were chosen for their faces. Dreyer permitted no make-

up: the unsparing close-ups reveal every pore and blemish.

As Jeanne, Dreyer cast a well-known stage actress, the Corsican-born Renée Falconetti. This was the only film role she ever played; but it was to make her one of the great screen icons. Regarded as temperamental and difficult, she nevertheless submitted to having her head completely shaved for the last scenes of the film (Dreyer shot the film in continuity).

Falconetti was described as "an actress of genius but no patience". Her career did not last long after *Jeanne d'Arc*, and in the late Thirties she retired to Buenos Aires where she died in 1946, at 53.

The film itself was not lucky. A few months after the premiere, the

negative was destroyed in a fire. Dreyer had to reconstruct his film as best as he could, from out-takes that were often, sadly, less than satisfactory.

A decade ago, long after Dreyer's death in 1968, a perfect, original print — apparently a copy submitted to the censor — turned up in the attic of a mental hospital in Norway. It proved to be markedly different, in the choice and length of shots, from the versions that have circulated for most of the past 60 years; and it is this, "authentic" version that will be shown at the Barbican.

Ole Schmidt's new score is said to be inspired by Gregorian church music, and uses a Jeanne leitmotif which is performed both by orchestra and solo soprano.

● *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc* is at the Barbican Cinema 1 (071-638 8891) on Sunday at 2.30pm



Jeanne (Renée Falconetti) has her hair cut before being executed

Irek may step out with Bolshoi again

WILL Irak Mukhamedov, the one-time star of the Bolshoi Ballet who is now a Royal Ballet principal, be lured back to perform with his former company, when the Bolshoi plays its mammoth Albert Hall season in London next month? That is the tantalising possibility held out by the British promoter, Derek Block. "The Royal Ballet, as you know, don't perform on a Sunday and the Bolshoi at the Albert Hall will," says Block. "Irek and Yuri Grigorovich, the Bolshoi's artistic director, are very old friends and I'm sure they would want to express that closeness while the Bolshoi are in London at such a prestigious event."

During his time at the Bolshoi, Mukhamedov certainly added lustre to Grigorovich's most famous ballet, *Spartacus*. But other Bolshoi-watchers believe that, contrary to Block's belief, there is little love lost between the veteran Bolshoi chief and the dancer who turned his back on the company. The timing of Mukhamedov's decision to quit the Bolshoi — on the eve of a big American tour — still ranks in Moscow.

● GLASGOW and Edinburgh are locked in competition



again, this time over which city gets the proposed National Gallery of Scottish Art. Yesterday the trustees of the National Galleries of Scotland announced a shortlist of two possible sites, one from each city. Both would be converted 19th-century buildings: the Sheriff Court in Glasgow, or the Dean Centre, once an orphanage, in Edinburgh. Furious lobbying has already commenced.

Bunny business

BUGS BUNNY has finally earned a place of honour in the Library of Congress. His 1957 cartoon, *What's Opera, Doc?*, joins 24 other new recruits to the Library's National Film Registry, an increasingly eclectic list of films chosen for their "cultural, historical or aesthetic significance". A hundred titles have now been registered; the goal is to ensure their future preservation. Bugs's new bedfellows include Laurel and Hardy (the 1929 short *Big Business*),

W.C. Fields (*The Bank Dick*), D.W. Griffith's still inflammatory 1913 classic *The Birth of a Nation*, and Edgar G. Ulmer's cult B-movie *Detour*, a hitch-hiker's journey into paranoia, made in a week with a stationary car and a back-projection screen.

● THE new Henry Moore Sculpture Institute is to open in April next year, tying in neatly with the centenary celebrations of the city in which it is sited: Leeds. Designed by the architects Jeremy Dixon and Edward Jones, the £5 million centre has been created out of three 19th-century wool merchants' houses in Cookridge Street,



Irek Mukhamedov: the chance of Bolshoi reunion

and will be linked by bridge to Leeds City Art Gallery. The Henry Moore Foundation — which spends more money on supporting contemporary visual art than any other private British foundation — has commissioned and paid for the institute, which will honour Moore's connection with Leeds, where he studied. An exhibition of Romanesque sculpture will open the institute's gallery.

Last chance...

HAVING vacated his post as a founder member of the most commercially successful and flamboyantly debauched rock 'n' roll band of the Eighties, Izzy Stradlin has proved that there is life after Guns N' Roses. Along with his dependable blues-rock band, the Ju Ju Hounds, Stradlin is in Britain for the second time this year to promote his debut album, *A New Single*, "Shuffle It All", is released to coincide with dates at the Town & Country in Leeds (0532 800100) tonight; Middlesbrough Town Hall (0642 245432) tomorrow; Barrowlands, Glasgow (041-226 4679) Saturday; and Town & Country, London NW5 (071-284 0303) on Monday.

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Firsts from the Finns

Hepburn has some stereotyped difficulties with a 1957 version of the "new computer system" in *Desk Set*. She overcomes them, of course, with help from Spencer Tracy.



lesser breed on the screen, they generally suffer more than women at the hands of the image-makers. While women are supposed to enjoy serving and keeping quiet — Anita

For the Library Association, Shimmom maintains that libraries are now exciting places, humming with computer terminals. But in fiction they can also be filled with

tyrant. But, in real life, college libraries are places of high drama where notes are passed and relationships formed.

While those tall, domineering

anticipated audience. Television librarians are often more stereotypical than those on film. Popular soaps and sit-coms depend far more on the joke and the cartoon.

but librarians and people who go to libraries do both. Perhaps it is time for Harrison Ford or Tom Cruise to play the adventurous male librarian who is proud of his job.

Avanti!, the chamber ensemble formed by the Finnish conductors Esa-Pekka Salonen and Jukka-Pekka Saraste in 1983, played both works under Saraste's direction with considerable flair.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Arsenic and seltzer on the frocks

The cast, like the screenplay, was extravagantly good in some respects, curiously weak



Between those extremes lay a slippery slope of thespian endeavour, on which the likes of Zoë Wanamaker, Ian McNeice, Patrick Malahide and James Faulkner struggled within the constrictions of their thinly written characters. The prominence of young

story (and the burden of assumed guilt) with great conviction, but the attempt to make her a spokeswoman for Free Love and Being True to Yourself was taken too far. It is a tribute to the skill of the actress that she was able to retain both our sympathy and

novel. Among the incidental delights were Ronald Fraser as the dangerous Doctor Porter and Ian Bartholomew as the perfidious butler, Jenkins. Kenneth Haigh and Colin Jeavons, the opposing counsel at Isabel's trial, were sadly not allowed to expand on their briefs, but Nicholas Woodeson made a considerable impact as the sanctimonious and ineffectual Bertie, peripheral but somehow crucial at every turn.

Fantasy blossoms

No sooner had she stalked on stage to a gladiatorial fanfare and whipped through a clipped, camp "Goldfinger" than the first blossoms began to fall at her feet. And by the time she had dabbed the tears

The emotions she showed us were big and colourful and, as such, often hugely enjoyable. "I Who Have Nothing", for

Four decades into her career, Bassey could be described — and kindly — as a self-parody. But so forcefully does she live out the fantasies of her audience that here, in one of six Albert Hall appearances ending a British tour, one applauded her instead as the glamorous epitome of certain old-style, strangely noble showbiz values.

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Fair lady finds her Pygmalion



Margaret Wheeler, left, was sure she had been given the wrong baby, wrote to Shaw and began a dialogue that fascinates Sarah Johnson

Peggy Rylant was 6lb 3oz when she was born but a strapping 7lb 4oz when her mother took her home two weeks later. Valerie Wheeler, born on the same day in the same maternity home, weighed 7lb 6oz at birth yet, though obviously thriving, weighed much less than she should have on being taken home. The truth was that Peggy was Valerie and Valerie was Peggy. Margaret Wheeler, Peggy's natural mother, was the only person in the place bright enough to notice that she had been given the wrong baby the day after birth.

The mix-up was resolutely denied by nurses and by the other parents with a pigheadedness that defies belief until one thinks of how much most people are in tongue-tied awe of any medical personnel, and of how self-important those personnel can be. This was even more true in Nottingham in 1936, where the story of Margaret Wheeler and Bernard Shaw began.

The Rylants closed their ears to Margaret's entreaties, threats and carefully set out "proofs" of the girls' true identities. By the time the girls were eight — both strongly resembling their natural parents — Margaret was desperate enough to write out of the blue to her hero, the 87-year-old George Bernard Shaw, hoping that he might turn the case into a cause célèbre.

In that she failed, but the last six years of Shaw's life were brightened by an on-paper flirtation with this bubbly, self-educated Workington housewife. He never actually met her but clearly felt rejuvenated not only by the bright-eyed, dimpled photograph she sent him ("As I guessed," he wrote gallantly, "a joyous creature, a charmer") but also by her raw energetic intellect. They soon moved off the subject of the mixed children and onto wider problems of war, literature and chiefly — women and the eternal

dilemma of home versus career. It is interesting to speculate that he may have seen elements in her of one of his own dramatic heroines. Here was an attractive and intelligent woman who used her wit to "get round" men — but to satisfy the deep, animal desire to get back her own baby rather than for some intellectual purpose.

Early on Shaw warned her with relish that she was "what experienced men call a dangerous woman". Had he known (perhaps he guessed) that her first letter to him, enclosing a complete phonetic alphabet she had devised herself, was a calculated ruse using his hobby-horse of phonetics to get him interested in her and then in the mixed children affair, he would have been enchanted by the irony: the idea of a purely intellectual pursuit wrought by the thinker in Margaret into a tool with which to hook back the child yearned for by the mother in Margaret.

His advice to her over the baby business was more supportive than practical. The best thing he did for her was to urge "Mrs Two-dimples" (only one of the names he gave to her) to exploit her literary talent in order to pay for someone to do her housework for her. She found housework demeriting, especially in those post-war days of shortages and constant make-do-and-mend, and used Shaw as a wailing wall.

His side of the correspondence reads like the smoothly run-off sermons of a great, but very tired old writer. He often betrays well-meaning ignorance of women's lives (and Margaret puts him right). She, on the other hand, put her whole soul into her letters. Few female writers can have described so honestly the way in which women are required to fulfil so many roles that they develop a kind of split personality.

She identified no fewer than eight warring personalities in her-



George Bernard Shaw aged 90 in 1946, the period when he corresponded with Margaret Wheeler

self — the chief being "the rebel" and "the maternal one". She realised the real problem for intelligent, able women: that they are not unwilling prisoners in the home, and love caring for the creatures in it — "darning socks and making nice fruit pies" — but know they can do other things too.

The denouement of the mixed children affair did not take place until the girls were in their twenties. Neither Shaw nor Margaret seems to have entertained the likelihood that the Rylants were not just unreasonable, but simply terrified of being forced to give up a child they loved. Nor did Margaret

LETTERS FROM
MARGARET
Correspondence between
Bernard Shaw and
Margaret Wheeler
1944-1950
Edited by Rebecca Swift
Chario, £13.99

realise, it turns out in Rebecca Swift's interviews with her children, how much poor Valerie — pretty and graceful yet unwanted by both sets of parents — suffered for being the wrong baby.

Margaret must have been a

trying mother if her criticism of Shaw is anything to go by. She specialised in debunking, with infuriating logic, the barrier of Shaw's socialist theories — euhanasia, institutionalised childrearing, the setting of 50 per cent quotas of women on all public bodies. In his new commentary on Shaw's political thought, *Socialism and Superior Brains* (Routledge, £35), the Australian critic Gareth Griffiths cites the Wheeler correspondence as typical of "Shaw's tendency to set himself up as an intellectual mentor". More often, the letters show Margaret pulling her idol off his pedestal for a good scrub with borax.

Big men have further to fall

Jason Cowley

ALL FALL DOWN

By Ita Daly

Bloomsbury, £14.99

B. MONKEY

By Andrew Davies

Line Tree, £14.99

THE END OF THE CENTURY AT THE END OF THE WORLD

By C. K. Stead

Harvill, £14.99

Ita Daly is an elegant stylist, but for all the cool assurance and gentle comedy of her writing, a desperate sadness lurks beneath the surface of her fourth novel, *All Fall Down*. At the heart of the book is the imperious P.J. McGuckian. He is a Dickensian grotesque — ludicrously tall with a shock of black wavy hair — who, unburdened by complexity, has accumulated a vast fortune from property development.

A paradoxical figure, P.J. boasts of his love for his wife, yet is gleefully promiscuous; he is quick to help out an old friend, now an Irish government minister who has become embroiled in an embarrassing sex scandal, but he never pauses to contemplate the reason for his son Aubrey's perpetual disenchantment. P.J. has immense strength of will, courage even, but like Lear "hath ever but slenderly known himself".

However, nemesis is stalking the land and when Aubrey returns from New York with Matt Savino, an Italian-American congressman with Republican sympathies, a chain of events is set in motion that culminates in the death of P.J.'s beloved teenage daughter Annabel. Wittgenstein said that the body is the best picture of the human soul, and when we last glimpse a grief-stricken P.J., we are struck by the force of that observation. For here is a body, as P.J. falls to his knees with vomit seeping from his mouth in a "bitter stream of bile", that does indeed show us a picture of a human soul in torment.

Such remorse reveals a P.J. wholly altered: a man of disillusioned aspiration, humbled by suffering, brought low by folly. But unlike his unfortunate daughter he can find no release in death, for an omniscient voice warns us: "It will take P.J. many years to die."

All Fall Down is a subtle, moving study of Irish family life. It is brightened by flashes of high comedy, and animated by lovely passages — Aubrey's spiritual awakening in New York, Annabel perched high in a tree watching the svelte Sean swimming illicitly in a pond on the McGuckian's country estate — which are propelled by prose that shimmers and basks in a sunlight of its own making.

B. Monkey charts the choppy waters of a destructively obsessive love-affair that begins with a stolen glance in a London gymnasium and ends in murder in a remote Yorkshire village. The novel is narrated by the eponymous heroine (B for Beatrice) and her school-teacher boyfriend Alan, in a stream of alternating monologues. In a prose that is gasping and confessional, we are told of their sexual

fumbleings in grisly detail; we learn of the streetwise B's delinquent childhood and criminal teenage years; and we are introduced to Alan's banal anxieties and creeping suspicion that B's past conceals a secret too dark to name. The novel ends in a bloody ceremony of bullets as Alan is transported into a realm of moral deprivation.

Andrew Davies is strong on atmosphere and the clawing claustrophobia of the lovers' world — a world of grimy bedsits, sweat and peculiar smells — is skilfully evoked. But one quickly tires of Alan's self-pitying attempts to fathom the mysteries that engulf him, and of the casual brutality of the self-affirming B's language, which leaves us yearning for a revitalising spark of humanity, a gesture of forgiveness, even a joke, to dispel the gloom.

Despite its grandiose title, manifold subtexts and multi-voiced narrative, *The End of the Century at the End of the World* is a surprisingly accessible novel with an attractive central character, Laura Barber, an Auckland housewife and mature student, is haunted by lost time and memories of her love for two men, Dan and Maurice. During the course of her research she re-encounters Dan, reformed radical and jaded minister in New Zealand's dispirited Labour administration, and Maurice, Marxist and veteran of the Spanish Civil War, which forces each of them to re-evaluate those heady events of more than 20 years ago.

When Maurice dies, the distinctive moment of this elegiac novel seeks to discover abundance in loss, as Laura realises that her happiness can be won only at the expense of her marriage and the loss of her love for Dan.

Laura's journey into the past is melancholy, but the closing moments of the book are harmoniously uplifting as Laura, striving to make defeat into a trophy, completes her monograph and, surrounded by her children, begins to write a novel.

Paid to pontificate

Consider the arrogance of the newspaper columnist. He perches, squawking, opposite the editorial or tucked away on a features page, dispensing the sort of unbidden opinions to which, under any other circumstance, the only response would be "Yeah And who asked you, then?" He stretches a single thought into a 1,000-word thesis and then, if he thought turns out to reach only as far as 900 words, contracts a year's worth of political debate into a five-line filler at the end. He manufactures a spiteful anger about a subject that, in truth, only mildly irritates him, or is suddenly tolerant of something which only annoys him, or two ago set him ranting. Then, arrogance of all arrogances, he has the columns collected into a book and asks you to read them all over again.

Bernard Levin does his arrogance like a party trick. "Of all the heterosexual journalists in this country," he writes, "I think I have written more than any other in defence of homosexuals." And "Did we not cheer — I more loudly than anybody — when the Soviet Union began to crumble? Who but a Levin would dare claim that none has written more in defence of gay than he, or that no prisoner in some Siberian gulag whooped as loudly at the fall of communism?"

There are times, I will admit, when I have found the weekly doses of virtuoso loquacity ("I will have you know that I am a *Chevalier de la Confrérie des Tasse-Fromages de France* and I know a good cheese board when I see it") tiresome. I board when I have just calmed my spleen down from his reaction to one column when along comes the next ready to crank me up all over again.

This is part of Levin's job: he wouldn't be doing it properly if he diluted his arguments with the equivocations that are allowed non-columnists.

But somehow it makes more sense as a collection. Two columns into the book and my spleen is already full and green: I have the point of Levin and can read the rest of the collection with a level head. I can note his majestic sweeps from the particular to the general and back again, his personalisation of some massively impersonal issue, his quirky dips from reaction into liberalism. More: I can enjoy his modernist prose style. The modern columnist's style is to jangle the odd note: location into something more formal; Levin does the trick with an older sort of conventions. He is a Victorian prosodist who breaks into bursts of brassy Edwardian



Two pundits and one conduit: Levin, Waterhouse and Attallah

slang and you can almost see the quotation marks around any term coined later than 1962.

But if I find Levin's columns more attractive as a volume, I find Keith Waterhouse's make real sense only in their natural bi-weekly habitat in the *Daily Mail*. (In truth I preferred him in the *Mirror*: I've always had the feeling

But here is the problem: one Sharon and Tracy in a while is fine for a columnist, but ten in a book makes for an eggy pudding indeed. If Waterhouse and Levin have an engaging arrogance, then Naim Attallah's skill is in his remarkable self-effacement.

Attallah has interviewed 13 of the great and the good (plus Diana Moseley who is neither). His technique is one that is still pretty common in America but was last used regularly in this country by I think, Miriam Gross in *The Observer* some years ago, before the interviewer became the star of his own writing. Attallah's long interviews run as simple transcriptions: well-researched questions in italics, answers in roman type. There is none of that extraneous "as we sat in his simple but comfortable home" or "her fingers clenched nervously", no descriptions of face or clothes, no interpretation of what the interviewee meant to say or what the interviewer thinks about what he or she said.

John Diamond

IF YOU WANT MY OPINION

By Bernard Levin

Jonathan Cape, £15.99

SHARON & TRACY & THE REST

By Keith Waterhouse

Hodder & Stoughton, £13.99

OF A CERTAIN AGE

By Naim Attallah

Quartet, £15

that Waterhouse has never quite approved of the *Mail's* more suburban readership.)

Waterhouse is the writer's columnist. Nostalgia for cobbled streets, black-eye peas and tanners at suspense: each is every columnist's fallback at one time or another; but when Waterhouse does it there is no sense that it's through laziness or lack of a more topical subject. He's the best there is at the pettiness of bureaucracy, the lame-headedness of government, the foolishness of the punditatorial classes. Best of all are the characters he's established over the years — the airheaded, nail-filing Sharon and Tracy on reception, Messrs Bratwurst, Pomme-frite and Fruite-cale homogenising away at the EC, our political masters recast as Clogthorpe District Council.

It is a book that demonstrates quite conclusively that what the reader wants of an interview with subjects who really have seen the world change, even helped change it, is to hear their words. No interviewer on the subject of Lord Dacre's dress sense can be as compelling as Lord Dacre is on secret service recruitment or his part in the Hitler Diaries farce; no interviewer need give Lady Moseley any more than the short length of rope with which she hangs herself. Enoch Powell in his own swift-chosen, precise words says more about Powell than any newspaper biographer can and Attallah's great, if modest, skill is that he lets him do it. It is because of this and entirely to Attallah's credit, of course, that he would make a lousy newspaper columnist.

Collections of fiction and books on chess for Christmas stockings

For the royal game this has been an *annus mirabilis*. Britain's Nigel Short advanced to the antechamber of the world chess championship (he plays Jan Timman for the right to challenge Kasparov next month), and Rip Van Winkle, alias Bobby Fischer, returned after 20 years to defeat Boris Spassky once again.

Already two books have appeared on the rematch. With Bobby Fischer: *The \$5,000,000 Comeback* (Cadogan, £8.99 paperback), Nigel Davies, Malcolm Pein and Jonathan Levitt quenced their pawn just before Raymond Keene's Fischer-Spassky II: *The Return of a Legend* (Batsford, £9.99 paperback). The book by Davies, Pein and Levitt is cheaper, but Keene's is better value. He gives the scores of all previous games between Fischer and Spassky, and his notes to the recent match are fuller.

Daniel Johnson

The upsurge of interest in the Fischer-Spassky rematch has prompted a reprint of the great American's book, *My 60 Memorable Games* (Faber, £7.99 paperback). This most arrogant of men includes several draws and even losses in his superb selection of games from 1957 to 1967. Unfortunately the book does not include the games he played en route to the world championship between 1970 and 1972. In the absence of Fischer's own notes to those games (and the rematch), this book is a pity that the publishers have not bothered to translate the moves into algebraic notation.

Fischer's next opponent may be the Hungarian prodigy Judith Polgar, who achieved her aim of becoming a grandmaster a month younger than Fischer's record a year ago. Now 16 and still improving, Judith will be the star attraction at the Hastings premier tournament just after Christmas. She also has two older sisters, Sofia, an international master, and Susan, a grandmaster. The Polgar Sisters: *Training or Genius?* by Cathy Forbes (Batsford, £10.99 paperback) tries to resolve the nature/nurture issue while charting the rise of these dedicated professionals under the heavy-handed tutelage of their father.

It is a good tale and Forbes tells it well enough, but when she revises the book, as she must soon, she should dwell less heavily on the theme of sexism. The truth is that the sisters' careers have been assisted by their gender, both financially and competitively: organisers pay more for women who can beat men, and many men have underestimated them.

In the year which saw Nigel Short defeat Anatoly Karpov, Raymond Keene's concise biography of the best British player for more than a century is timely. *Nigel Short: World Chess Champion* (Batsford, £10.99 paperback) has a foreword by Dominic Lawson, editor of *The Spectator* and a learned kibitzer (old Yiddish chess jargon for... spectator).

Finally, the new edition of *The Oxford Companion to Chess* by David Hooper and Kenneth Whyld (OUP, £25) is the single most useful chess reference book now available. Minor inaccuracies apart, the only defect of this handsome volume is the lack of precise dates of birth and death.

Praveen Moman

piety that three have been excluded, on the questionable grounds of fashion and political correctness.

More poignant memories are contained in *Red Sky at Sunrise* by Laurie Lee (Viking, £16.99), his autobiographical trilogy: *Cider with Rosie*, *As I walked out one midsummer morning* and *A Moment of War*. In Lee's view, autobiography is a "celebration of life and an attempt to hoard its sensations... trophies snatched from the dark".

Two sets of novels provide some of the most enjoyable reading by modern women authors. Joanna Trollope's three most successful works — *A Village Affair*, *A Passionate Man* and *The Rectors Wife* — are published together in *Joanna Trollope* (Bloomsbury, £9.99). The Mary Wesley Omnibus (Macmillan, £15.99) presents her first novel *Jumping the Queue*, written when she was 70. It also includes the racy *The Camomile Lawn*, which brought Wesley wide recognition through Peter Hall's television series.

AUTHORS

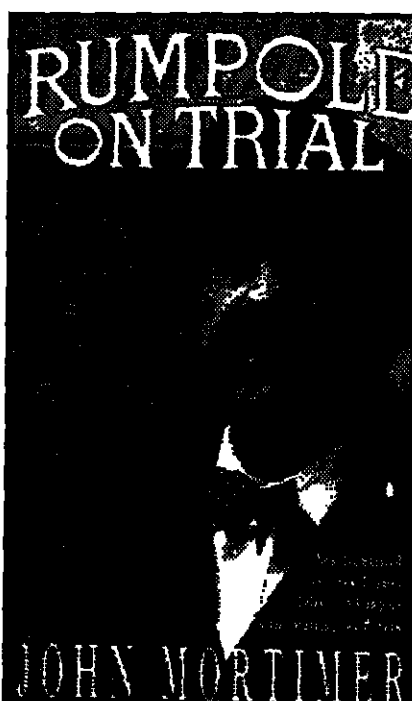
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John Mortimer will be signing copies of the *Rumpole* books at Hammonds, 191 Fleet Street, London EC4A between 12.30-1.30 on 18 December

Americans switch on to new Dallas dynasty

When it comes to national traditions, Americans have a long list of items that a European would consider to be of disconcertingly recent growth. Where visiting Brits see a Victorian pile, Americans see an impossibly ancient monument. But we should never, for that reason, underestimate the emotional force they possess.

This is naturally reflected in sport. The tradition of the excellence of the Dallas Cowboys — self-aggrandisingly self-nicknamed "America's Team" — seems to go back to the dawn of time. Odd to reflect that in January, the Super Bowl will be contested for only the 27th time, the FA Cup final has been played 111 times.

"The Cowboys are a part of recognisable America," the team owner, Jerry Jones, said. A little over three years ago, Jones bought the team for a trifling sum estimated at \$140 million. "They are part of the aura of sports — not just the National Football League. My perspective is that they have transcended the NFL. They are above that. They are an institution that people — not just football fans — can recognise. I realised that when I bought the club. They are unique."

The Cowboys have something of the same boundary-breaking profile as Manchester United. Before Channel 4 brought American football into the living room, the Dallas Cowboys were probably the only team most Brits could name. But once it arrived, the Cowboys got left behind. In the mid-Eighties they entered a slump. They are now beginning to emerge. Even this hint of promise has been enough to spawn a thousand headlines: America's Team is Back.

The ancient tradition of the excellence of the Dallas Cowboys goes back, well, as far as the 1970s, even the 1960s. American football's fortunes have soared annually for the past quarter-century: a rise that began with television, was sustained by television and is still fuelled by television. National television, cable television: football has never failed.

Dallas established their tradition of highly visible victories in that time, when football and television were commencing the still-continuing era of sym-



Simon Barnes on the trail of the revitalised Cowboys and the owner whose cash and controversial methods could trade slump for Super Bowl success



Jones: so impressed by Dallas aura he bought the club

biotic growth. It became the television network's motto: if in doubt, give 'em the Cowboys. Everyone loved the Cowboys. Well, if they didn't, they loathed them so much they would watch in the hope of seeing them beaten. The Cowboys could lose, all right, but television — and football — could not.

"The Cowboys represented success," Jones said. "An aura that was bigger than life. Like Texas, like Dallas." With that went an arrogance that was equally Dallas, equally Texas. The Cowboys made friends, they made enemies, and either way it was great for business. People bought more Cowboys gear than any other in the NFL: they were proud to say to wear the silver and blue star.

When you walk into an institution like the Cowboys,

you expect to wade knee-deep through clapping. You expect to listen to all kinds of guff about integrity and pride. You don't get any of that from Jones.

He is a businessman. He is very serious about keeping eye contact, and he has eyes like stones. He prides himself on being aggressive: "I knew when I took over the club that I was going to have to be very aggressive, that I was going to have to take risks. That is the way it has been. That is the hallmark of the club. We have been aggressive, we have been responsive. When we see an opportunity, we grab it."

Jones, just turned 50, carries the unmistakable hallmark of the unrepentant Eighties and the religion of entrepre-



Johnson: envied



Landry: legendary

neurialism. Brutality is a kind of virtue. Jones came in like a tornado, buying the club from a man called, I promise you, H.R. "Bum" Bright, and promptly fired the head coach, Tom Landry, a legendary person, "a Mount Rushmore figure" as one writer put it, a man who walked up and down the sidelines in a snap-brim hat.

Jones later parted company with the almost equally legendary club president, Tex Schramm. He also traded the, yes, legendary player, Herschel Walker. He even managed to inspire a walk-out of cheerleaders.

Jones went on to appoint his former room-mate from college football days, Jimmy Johnson, as head coach, and then reaped the inevitable rewards. The first season of the new

order brought 15 defeats and a single victory.

That inspired a nationwide surge of hate from the legion of success-worshipping Cowboys fans. The public had turned on Landry for losing; now they turned on Jones for firing Landry and still losing. The legions of Cowboy-haters were saddened: Dallas were so bad it was hardly worth the trouble of hating them.

Inspired by Troy Aikman, their quarterback, Dallas Cowboys won their eleventh game of the season on Sunday, and so clinched their place in the play-offs. They have the youngest team in the League. If you want to beat the Cowboys, experts are saying, you had better beat them now. They could go on to dominate the Nineties. America's Team.

Jones owns the club, and is the general manager as well as the entire board of directors. "I wouldn't have bought the club if I had not been able to do it that way," he said. "I come from a business of risk, a business of risk-assessment. My business was drilling oil and gas wells. I am accustomed to getting crushing news."

Jones, it is clear, is what the Irish call a chancer. He has made his fortune by being fast, clever, aggressive and decisive. Sport gives him what many very rich, very able and successful people often lack and desire: fame. Notoriety, if you prefer. Sport exists by feeding on the imagination of the public: Jones entered sport and instantly became a media monster. It is a part he plays very well.

That trade of Herschel Walker was the big move. It is a deal people still talk about: a great player past his best was exchanged for five players and seven more from the college draft system.

All in all, in his brief spell with the club, Jones has made 46 trades: an extraordinary figure. Johnson has become an envied success as head coach. "The Cowboys were not on their back needing mouth-to-mouth resuscitation," Jones said, "they had dropped to a knee. What they needed was a plan and a fresh zest to take advantage of that tradition." Fully enough, Jones comes from Arkansas. But if you want someone to live up to all the British preconceptions of Dallas — Jones is here and in charge. America's Team. Jones's Team.



Aikman: the quarterback who has inspired the Cowboys to a play-off place

SPORTS LETTERS

Gower must accept life without touring

From Dr Anthony P. Hall

Sir, As a doctor, I had the unique experience of accompanying the English cricket team that went to India and Pakistan for the World Cup in 1987. David Gower declared himself unavailable because he decided to take the winter off, but if he had played, perhaps England would have won the World Cup rather than losing the final by seven runs.

In the coming tour of India, England will be playing many of their matches away from the major cities. Life for the touring party may often be rather boring. I am sure that Graham Gooch and his colleagues have chosen the side they consider best equipped for the arduous tour.

So, as a member of the MCC, I will vote to support the selectors at the meeting on January 27. Let us hope that Gower plays well enough next year to return to the England team.

Yours faithfully,
TONY HALL,
7 Wimpole Street, W1.

From Mr Jonathan Fenton
Sir, The debate over David Gower is not going to lie down and die as the TCCB and the upper echelons of the MCC would wish. It is a great testimony to the manner in which David Gower not only plays the game of cricket but also the way he keeps his dignity that the subject has not been allowed to die.

It has been said that David Gower does not fit into the regime of Messrs Dexter and Gooch. The only problem this seems to cause is that Gower

does not get picked to go on tour. Is it more important to be able to run a half-marathon rather than to dismiss a ball to the boundary without the use of a pair of blacksmith's forceps or half a tree-trunk?

Yours faithfully,
J. FENTON,
Underdown,
Gloucester Road,
Ledbury, Herefordshire.

From Mr John B. Harris
Sir, The future about David Gower is reminiscent of that around Frank Woolley before the final Test against the Australians in 1934. Woolley, too, was a left-hander and a superb stylist who had scored vast numbers of runs in a long career at county and Test level. Close analysis of his Test record suggests that he was a bit more of a fair-weather batsman than Mead, Leyland and Paynter with whom he might be seen to have been in contention, for, with successively Mailey, Grimmett and O'Reilly prominent in the Australian bowling, at least one left-hander was a must at the time.

In 1930, in four innings, Woolley made only 74, but the 41 he scored in the first innings at Lord's was acclaimed by contemporary writers as seeming to outshine Dale's 173. Chapman's 121 and even Bradman's famous 254 in the same match. One writer, I recall, extolled the huge number of runs Woolley would have made if he had not got out!

There were of course some differences. There was never any question about Woolley's

deportment on or off the field, and Warner wrote of his beautiful throwing when fielding through the Australian innings of 729 for six declared at Lord's in 1930.

Woolley was omitted after the Lord's Test in 1930, did not tour South Africa or Australia in the next few years, and made one appearance against New Zealand in 1931 and India in 1932.

In 1934 Woolley was scoring heavily in county matches and there was tremendous pressure from the press for his recall, especially after England's narrow escape, saved by rain, at Leeds after the first of the huge Bradman-Ponsford contributions. So, he came into the side, and went in at 104 for one — which looked respectable enough until it was set against the 701 that Australia had made.

Alas, in that innings and again in the second, Woolley's failure, and the manner of it, was a cause for real sadness: it was as if, ironically, it was Leyland who produced a magnificent fighting hundred in the first innings and brought a trace of respectability into the England batting before an eventual 562-run defeat. I saw his batting and treasure the memory. Would that we had another Leyland today!

Yours faithfully,
JOHN B. HARRIS,
31 Princedale Road, W11.

From Mr F. J. Josling
Sir, Even Caddington Cricket Club does not select its team by a survey of attitudes in The Chequers or The Cricketers, and once the team is posted on Wednesday in the post office there is certainly not an assessment of public reaction.

Perhaps selectors and umpires carry greater respect at this level.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN JOSLING,
Badger's Holt,
Caddington,
Luton, Bedfordshire.

Welsh origins

From Mr David Watkins
Sir, Recent letters (November 27, December 4) about crowd behaviour at Cardiff triggered my memory. The first time I recall sustained booing (and jeering) was at the Middlesex

Defiance of authority

From Mr Peter Blaseby

Sir, One effect of the considerable rainfall over the past month has been for the National Rivers Authority to instruct rowers not to go out on the non-tidal Thames.

This has caused much disappointment amongst the large rowing community, including substantial cost to clubs such as my own who traditionally organise large events at this time of the year. In an amateur sport, such a loss seriously affects their financial strength, especially in hard times.

However, responsible club officials have taken heed of the instruction and their enthusiastic members are either having to make do with rowing machines or make lengthy trips by motorway to unaffected water.

Yet last weekend, despite official warnings and two accidents at Oxford and Henley during the previous week, the most prestigious rowing club in the country, Leander, boasted two clubs eight at Henley. This can only be viewed as a huge snub to authority and common sense. We know that in years past crews rowed in conditions far worse, but that is beside the point.

The most alarming fact is that their national squad members had already been told by the Amateur Rowing Association not to defy the restriction, but the club put its own crews out.

Whether the ARA or its regional counterpart can impose an effective penalty remains to be tested, but I would hope that the club itself takes action against its members who were responsible for such conduct.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BLASEBY,
(Madow Rowing Club under-13 coach),
22 Bovingdon Heights,
Madow,
Buckinghamshire.

Sevens — each time London Welsh appeared. In those days commentators called it "friendly booing".

Perhaps it was their sons who created the "good humoured" booing and whistling at Twickenham in the Barbarians match to contrast

Football loses its direction

From Mr Jerry Morton

Sir, Why should Graham Taylor worry about his warning that football is being overexposed on television (report, November 28)? He speaks the truth.

Too many matches are running our best footballers into the ground. Supporters don't get value for money as the players are either too tired or injured. There is not the sense of occasion there used to be. Saturday afternoon was sacred. So much football and so much on television is creating an audience of sedentary, square-eyed supporters.

Chairmen treat football clubs as toys to play around with and impress their friends. Nor do they appear interested in the overall future of the game. Everything revolves around money and club success — as soon as the first instalment of television money rolled in they went and spent it on new players, thus fuelling

the transfer market to even greater heights.

What did the supporter get out of it? Better, safer facilities, new lavatories. You must be joking. They don't buy success.

The less said about the FA's role in regulating all this the better. "We don't want to interfere; we must not upset the chairmen, they know best."

True supporters should vote with their feet and demonstrate their power and passion for the game — the miners did it very well. The chairmen and the FA might notice if the grounds were empty one Saturday afternoon.

I am sure managers and players will support the action because, if none is taken, the game as we used to know it will not be around in a few years.

Yours sincerely,
JERRY MORTON,
104 Haldon Road, SW18.

Attacking option

From Mr K. C. Bass

Sir, It is remarkable that Norwich City are eight points clear at the top of the FA Premier League with a tally of 34 goals for and 31 against (average 1.09 from 18 games).

These figures should be compared with those of Manchester United, who are fifth

in the table: 20 goals for and 13 against (average 1.53 from 18 games).

Does this mean that a strong defence is no longer a prerequisite for a potential winner of the league?

Yours faithfully,
K. C. BASS,
5 Ailingdon,
Woodside Park, N12.

Lucrative action

From Mr Antony Allott

Sir, In my innocence, I read (December 4) that Harry "Butch" Reynolds sued for and was awarded damages against the IAAF in an American court. I note two points:

1. The IAAF's full title is the International Amateur Athletic Federation (my italics).

2. Reynolds claims that, had it not been for the ban on him,

he would have earned "an estimated \$4 to 5 million in appearance fees and endorsement income".

If an amateur can earn so much, how much could a professional earn? If he can earn \$2.73 million from the court by way of compensatory and punitive damages by not running, why bother to run?

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY ALLOTT,
Sorbroke Mill,
Bodcot,
Banbury,
Oxfordshire.

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Oxfordshire.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046. They should include a daytime telephone number.

BASKETBALL

Guildford search for consolation in cup

By NICHOLAS HARLING

GUILDFORD Kings will be looking for consolation in the national cup tonight for their almost certain abdication of the Carlsberg league title.

Guildford hope to have Alton Byrd in action at Crystal Palace, even though the England guard, 35, will go into hospital on December 21 for an operation on a torn knee cartilage.

With Russ Saunders certain to be keen to put one over on the champions, who released him in the summer, Guildford need even a half-fit Byrd more than ever. Byrd was restricted during his club's fifth league defeat of the season, an 81-72 loss at home to Thames Valley Tigers, who stretched their lead at the top of the table to four points.

Kevin Cadle, the Guildford coach, said: "It kind of did us in Alton being hurt. It meant that we had a half-court offence with no easy baskets. We had to work for everything."

Thames Valley exploited the early departure of Trevor Gordon and Martin Henlan, who both fouled out, and the shooting frailties of Henlan and Carl Miller to win a game which would have graced the

Spectrum Arena, had Guildford's new home court been open in time to stage the fixture as planned.

Not that the atmosphere there could have been any better than it was in the packed Guildford sports centre, where the Thames Valley supporter who was asked to remove his drum from a spare seat rightly refused to do so. He duly produced a second ticket that he had bought for the drum.

Guildford had nobody to compare with the exceptional Nigel Lloyd, who collected 23 points for the second night running — including seven in a devastating three minutes when Guildford were outscored 15-2 — having masterminded the previous evening's 98-78 defeat of Derby Hawks.

Thames Valley have played two games more than Worthing Bears, in second place, who easily beat Hemel Hempstead 100-74.

At the foot of the table, Cheshire Jets registered their first league win of the season, beating Sunderland 89-68. Cheshire's new Americans made a big impression, especially Tyrone Thomas, who scored 26 points.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

YUKE

(b) To itch, Scottish and Northern dialect, cf. MDutch *juken* to itch; Walter Scott, as usual with obsolete dialect: "It was his fashion to yoke; by my certie, some o' our necks wad hae been yoking."

VALI

(b) A civil governor of a Turkish province or *vilayet*, from the Turkish *vali*, cf. *wali*: "The corrupt and inefficient government of the Vali of Beirut." The *Vali*, like nearly all Turkish officials, had discarded the Turkish costume.

PADROADIST

(b) A Roman Catholic who favours or supports the *padroado* or ecclesiastical patronage claimed by the King of Portugal in India, from the Portuguese *padroado* patronage. "Padroadists and Propagandists are regarded as two distinct sects."

NEPENTHES

(a) A drug of Egyptian origin mentioned in the *Odyssey* as capable of banishing grief or trouble from the mind, from the Greek *ne* not + *penthos* grief: "It is the true Nepenthes, which makes a sad man frolic." Some will have it [Bogloss] the Nepenthes of Homer.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

White finishes off with 1 Qxb6+ Ke8 (1 ... Kc8 2 Qc7 mate) 2 Qb8+ mating.

Golf's prize pupil called to meet the head master



Hogan: mystique

By MITCHELL PLATT
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK Faldo, the world's leading golfer, described his surprise meeting last month with Ben Hogan, one of the four players to win all four major championships, as that of a schoolboy meeting a headmaster for the first time.

Faldo, with two Open championships and two US Masters titles to his credit, said that the invitation to visit Hogan, now 80, at his home in Fort Worth, Texas, came out of the blue. "I don't know of a man in any sport who has

the aura of mystique that he commands, and I never dreamt I would meet him face to face," Faldo said.

"After all the stories I've read and heard of him being an iron man, I did wonder how I would be greeted. I have certainly never felt so in awe of somebody. It is quite something when you first meet Nicklaus and Palmer, but this was totally different."

Faldo said he had sat up most of the night preparing a list of questions about Hogan himself and his swing. "I asked how he played, how he practised, how he achieved all

he did, and it was very clear that the most important thing in his life was hitting the golf ball," Faldo said. "He hasn't actually hit a ball now for three years, but he still looks in tremendous shape."

"I spoke to Mr Hogan about his practice routine and I was so pleased that his key swing thoughts were similar to mine. We spoke of our thoughts on leg action and arm action."

Faldo is regarded as the most complete golfer since Hogan, who won nine major championships. He has committed himself to the practice

range in much the same way as the Americans; he can, like Hogan, be brittle at times but he is essentially shy. He is also charitable with both his time and his money.

Faldo has strived to lose a reputation of being a loner. His intense and melancholy appearance on the fairways has not endeared him to the public. This intensity, while a vital part of his game, has worked against his image.

"Perhaps I showed it too much on occasions," he said. "But I think I made a pretty good turn-around in 1992, considering I had been the

same way for 16 years. I did used to get very down on myself for hitting bad shots. I'm still puzzled when I do, and I want to correct the faults, but I'm much lighter on myself when things do go wrong. And I no longer regard golf as the be-all and end-all of life."

Faldo's wife, Gill, is expecting their third child in late March, so he will probably miss The Players Championship. "We were originally told the baby was due in Masters week," he said. "I'm not quite sure how we would have worked that one out."

Faldo's immediate aim is the Johnnie Walker World Championship, which starts in Jamaica next Thursday, before taking a five-week break. His thoughts for 1993 are clear: "If I could have one career wish for next year it would be to win the US Open."

That would leave Faldo with only the US PGA Championship to win to become the fifth player to collect the grand slam of all four major championships, and in so doing emulate Gene Sarazen, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player and, of course, Hogan.



Faldo: in awe

CRICKET

Sri Lanka settle Test series with rare win

FROM OUR SPORTS STAFF

Colombo: Sri Lanka raced to a nine-wicket victory over New Zealand on the fourth day of their second and final Test match at the Sinhalese Sports Club here yesterday.

It was Sri Lanka's first win over New Zealand in 11 Tests and their third victory in 42 Tests, having previously beaten India in 1985 and Pakistan in 1986 in Colombo.

Sri Lanka also clinched the series 1-0, the first Test having been drawn. Martin Crowe, the New Zealand captain, was sidelined by a hamstring injury and will miss the rest of the tour.

Sri Lanka reached the target of 70 runs in the fifth over with 52 of the runs coming off 13 boundaries. The opener, Roshan Mahanama, scored six of the boundaries in his breezy innings of 29. Despite Mahanama's exit with the score on 36, Chandika Hathurusinghe and Asanka Gurusinghe guided the side home with an unbroken stand of 34.

Hundreds of spectators surged on to the field as Hathurusinghe hit the winning run off the part-time bowler, Andrew Jones, who led New Zealand in Crowe's absence.

Hashan Tillakaratne brought extra glory for Sri Lanka when he took the man-of-the-match award for equalising a world record seven catches in a match and for scoring 93 in the first innings. The record is held jointly by Greg Chappell, of Australia, and Yashvir Singh, of India, both of whom achieved the feat in Test matches against England.

Earlier, the wicketkeeper, Adam Parore, and the New Zealand tail put up some determined resistance, adding

84 runs to their overnight score of 277 before their second innings ended in the sixth over after lunch at 361. Parore hit a defiant 60 that included four boundaries and figured in two useful stands of 31 and 44 with the seam bowlers, Chris Pringle and Michael Owens. (Agencies)

SRI LANKA: First innings 304 (R S Mahanama 105, H P Tillakaratne 82, A Pararajasinghe 76; M B Owens 4 for 101).

Second innings: R S Mahanama c Parore b Owens 29; U C Hathurusinghe not out 23; A P Gurusinghe not out 14; Extras (lb 2, nb 2) 4.

Total (1 wk) 70

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-36; 2-52; 3-61; 4-70; 5-84; 6-101; 7-115; 8-130; 9-144; 10-158; 11-172; 12-186; 13-200; 14-214; 15-228; 16-242; 17-256; 18-270; 19-284; 20-298; 21-312; 22-326; 23-340; 24-354; 25-368; 26-382; 27-396; 28-410; 29-424; 30-438; 31-452; 32-466; 33-480; 34-494; 35-508; 36-522; 37-536; 38-550; 39-564; 40-578; 41-592; 42-606; 43-620; 44-634; 45-648; 46-662; 47-676; 48-690; 49-704; 50-718; 51-732; 52-746; 53-760; 54-774; 55-788; 56-802; 57-816; 58-830; 59-844; 60-858; 61-872; 62-886; 63-900; 64-914; 65-928; 66-942; 67-956; 68-970; 69-984; 70-998; 71-1012; 72-1026; 73-1040; 74-1054; 75-1068; 76-1082; 77-1096; 78-1110; 79-1124; 80-1138; 81-1152; 82-1166; 83-1180; 84-1194; 85-1208; 86-1222; 87-1236; 88-1250; 89-1264; 90-1278; 91-1292; 92-1306; 93-1320; 94-1334; 95-1348; 96-1362; 97-1376; 98-1390; 99-1404; 100-1418; 101-1432; 102-1446; 103-1460; 104-1474; 105-1488; 106-1502; 107-1516; 108-1530; 109-1544; 110-1558; 111-1572; 112-1586; 113-1600; 114-1614; 115-1628; 116-1642; 117-1656; 118-1670; 119-1684; 120-1698; 121-1712; 122-1726; 123-1740; 124-1754; 125-1768; 126-1782; 127-1796; 128-1810; 129-1824; 130-1838; 131-1852; 132-1866; 133-1880; 134-1894; 135-1908; 136-1922; 137-1936; 138-1950; 139-1964; 140-1978; 141-1992; 142-2006; 143-2020; 144-2034; 145-2048; 146-2062; 147-2076; 148-2090; 149-2104; 150-2118; 151-2132; 152-2146; 153-2160; 154-2174; 155-2188; 156-2202; 157-2216; 158-2230; 159-2244; 160-2258; 161-2272; 162-2286; 163-2300; 164-2314; 165-2328; 166-2342; 167-2356; 168-2370; 169-2384; 170-2398; 171-2412; 172-2426; 173-2440; 174-2454; 175-2468; 176-2482; 177-2496; 178-2510; 179-2524; 180-2538; 181-2552; 182-2566; 183-2580; 184-2594; 185-2608; 186-2622; 187-2636; 188-2650; 189-2664; 190-2678; 191-2692; 192-2706; 193-2720; 194-2734; 195-2748; 196-2762; 197-2776; 198-2790; 199-2804; 200-2818; 201-2832; 202-2846; 203-2860; 204-2874; 205-2888; 206-2902; 207-2916; 208-2930; 209-2944; 210-2958; 211-2972; 212-2986; 213-3000; 214-3014; 215-3028; 216-3042; 217-3056; 218-3070; 219-3084; 220-3098; 221-3112; 222-3126; 223-3140; 224-3154; 225-3168; 226-3182; 227-3196; 228-3210; 229-3224; 230-3238; 231-3252; 232-3266; 233-3280; 234-3294; 235-3308; 236-3322; 237-3336; 238-3350; 239-3364; 240-3378; 241-3392; 242-3406; 243-3420; 244-3434; 245-3448; 246-3462; 247-3476; 248-3490; 249-3504; 250-3518; 251-3532; 252-3546; 253-3560; 254-3574; 255-3588; 256-3602; 257-3616; 258-3630; 259-3644; 260-3658; 261-3672; 262-3686; 263-3700; 264-3714; 265-3728; 266-3742; 267-3756; 268-3770; 269-3784; 270-3798; 271-3812; 272-3826; 273-3840; 274-3854; 275-3868; 276-3882; 277-3896; 278-3910; 279-3924; 280-3938; 281-3952; 282-3966; 283-3980; 284-3994; 285-4008; 286-4022; 287-4036; 288-4050; 289-4064; 290-4078; 291-4092; 292-4106; 293-4120; 294-4134; 295-4148; 296-4162; 297-4176; 298-4190; 299-4204; 300-4218; 301-4232; 302-4246; 303-4260; 304-4274; 305-4288; 306-4302; 307-4316; 308-4330; 309-4344; 310-4358; 311-4372; 312-4386; 313-4400; 314-4414; 315-4428; 316-4442; 317-4456; 318-4470; 319-4484; 320-4498; 321-4512; 322-4526; 323-4540; 324-4554; 325-4568; 326-4582; 327-4596; 328-4610; 329-4624; 330-4638; 331-4652; 332-4666; 333-4680; 334-4694; 335-4708; 336-4722; 337-4736; 338-4750; 339-4764; 340-4778; 341-4792; 342-4806; 343-4820; 344-4834; 345-4848; 346-4862; 347-4876; 348-4890; 349-4904; 350-4918; 351-4932; 352-4946; 353-4960; 354-4974; 355-4988; 356-5002; 357-5016; 358-5030; 359-5044; 360-5058; 361-5072; 362-5086; 363-5100; 364-5114; 365-5128; 366-5142; 367-5156; 368-5170; 369-5184; 370-5198; 371-5212; 372-5226; 373-5240; 374-5254; 375-5268; 376-5282; 377-5296; 378-5310; 379-5324; 380-5338; 381-5352; 382-5366; 383-5380; 384-5394; 385-5408; 386-5422; 387-5436; 388-5450; 389-5464; 390-5478; 391-5492; 392-5506; 393-5520; 394-5534; 395-5548; 396-5562; 397-5576; 398-5590; 399-5604; 400-5618; 401-5632; 402-5646; 403-5660; 404-5674; 405-5688; 406-5702; 407-5716; 408-5730; 409-5744; 410-5758; 411-5772; 412-5786; 413-5800; 414-5814; 415-5828; 416-5842; 417-5856; 418-5870; 419-5884; 420-5898; 421-5912; 422-5926; 423-5940; 424-5954; 425-5968; 426-5982; 427-5996; 428-6010; 429-6024; 430-6038; 431-6052; 432-6066; 433-6080; 434-6094; 435-6108; 436-6122; 437-6136; 438-6150; 439-6164; 440-6178; 441-6192; 442-6206; 443-6220; 444-6234; 445-6248; 446-6262; 447-6276; 448-6290; 449-6304; 450-6318; 451-6332; 452-6346; 453-6360; 454-6374; 455-6388; 456-6402; 457-6416; 458-6430; 459-6444; 460-6458; 461-6472; 462-6486; 463-6500; 464-6514; 465-6528; 466-6542; 467-6556; 468-6570; 469-6584; 470-6598; 471-6612; 472-6626; 473-6640; 474-6654; 475-6668; 476-6682; 477-6696; 478-6710; 479-6724; 480-6738; 481-6752; 482-6766; 483-6780; 484-6794; 485-6808; 486-6822; 487-6836; 488-6850; 489-6864; 490-6878; 491-6892; 492-6906; 493-6920; 494-6934; 495-6948; 496-6962; 497-6976; 498-6990; 499-7004; 500-7018; 501-7032; 502-7046; 503-7060; 504-7074; 505-7088; 506-7102; 507-7116; 508-7130; 509-7144; 510-7158; 511-7172; 512-7186; 513-7200; 514-7214; 515-7228; 516-7242; 517-7256; 518-7270; 519-7284; 520-7298; 521-7312; 522-7326; 523-7340; 524-7354; 525-7368; 526-7382; 527-7396; 528-7410; 529-7424; 530-7438; 531-7452; 532-7466; 533-7480; 534-7494; 535-7508; 536-7522; 537-7536; 538-7550; 539-7564; 540-7578; 541-7592; 542-7606; 543-7620; 544-7634; 545-7648; 546-7662; 547-7676; 548-7690; 549-7704; 550-7718; 551-7732; 552-7746; 553-7760; 554-7774; 555-7788; 556-7802; 557-7816; 558-7830; 559-7844; 560-7858; 561-7872; 562-7886; 563-7900; 564-7914; 565-7928; 566-7942; 567-7956; 568-7970; 569-7984; 570-7998; 571-8012; 572-8026; 573-8040; 574-8054; 575-8068; 576-8082; 577-8096; 578-8110; 579-8124; 580-8138; 581-8152; 582-8166; 583-8180; 584-8194; 585-8208; 586-8222; 587-8236; 588-8250; 589-8264; 590-8278; 591-8292; 592-8306; 593-8320; 594-8334; 595-8348; 596-8362; 597-8376; 598-8390; 599-8404; 600-8418; 601-8432; 602-8446; 603-8460; 604-8474; 605-8488; 606-8502; 607-8516; 608-8530; 609-8544; 610-8558; 611-8572; 612-8586; 613-8600; 614-8614; 615-8628; 616-8642; 617-8656; 618-8670; 619-8684; 620-8698; 621-8712; 622-8726; 623-8740; 624-8754; 625-8768; 626-8782; 627-8796; 628-8810; 629-8824; 630-8838; 631-8852; 632-8866; 633-8880; 634-8894; 635-8908; 636-8922; 637-8936; 638-8950; 639-8964; 640-8978; 641-8992; 642-9006; 643-9020; 644-9034; 645-9048; 646-9062; 647-9076; 648-9090; 649-9104; 650-9118; 651-9132; 652-9146; 653-9160; 654-9174; 655-9188; 656-9202; 657-9216; 658-9230; 659-9244; 660-9258; 661-9272; 662-9286; 663-9300; 664-9314; 665-9328; 666-9342; 667-9356; 668-9370; 669-9384; 670-9398; 671-9412; 672-9426; 673-9440; 674-9454; 675-9468; 676-9482; 677-9496; 678-9510; 679-9524; 680-9538; 681-9552; 682-9566; 683-9580; 684-9594; 685-9608; 686-9622; 687-9636; 688-9650; 689-9664; 690-9678; 691-9692; 692-9706; 693-9720; 694-9734; 695-9748; 696-9762; 697-9776; 698-9790; 699-9804; 700-9818; 701-9832; 702-9846; 703-9860; 704-9874; 705-9888; 706-9902; 707-9916; 708-9930; 709-9944; 710-9958; 711-9972; 712-9986; 713-10000.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 106 (K P J Warrane 4 for 25).

Second innings: B R Hartland c Mahanama b Gurusinghe 21; J G Wright c Mahanama b Mahanama 50; A J Jones c Tillakaratne b Warrane 5; M D Crowe c Tillakaratne 107.

K R Rutherford c sub (Jayasinghe) 28; C Z Harris bow b Anura 19; A C Parore c Tillakaratne 60.

G E Bradburn c Warrane 7; M L Silva b Mahanama 1; C Pringle c Tillakaratne b Warrane 23.

M B Owens not out 14; Extras (lb 2, nb 1) 3.

Total 361

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23; 2-30; 3-189; 4-195; 5-240; 6-281; 7-285; 8-288; 9-317.

Bowling: Warrane 12-3-35; Gurusinghe 6-1-15; Mahanama 4-0-22; Warrane 40-5-134; Anura 22-4-54-2; Hathurusinghe 3-2-2-0.

Man of the match: H P Tillakaratne.

Umpires: T M Samarasinghe and I Anand.

□ Hobart: Three key members of the Pakistan team are struggling to be fit for the start of today's World Series Cup match against Australia at Bellerive Oval.

Javed Miandad, the captain, Salim Malik and Aamir Suhail have sore throats, but are expected to play.

Aaqib Javed, the fast bowler, is likely to miss the match, however, as he is still experiencing pain from a stress fracture in his lower back. (AP)

Kirsten reacts angrily to Kapil's run-out

FROM RICHARD STREETON IN PORT ELIZABETH

KAPIL Dev enraged the crowd of 19,000 when he ran out Peter Kirsten at the bowler's end for backing up too far before the ball was bowled early in South Africa's innings during the second one-day international here yesterday. Kirsten remonstrated with Kapil and the umpire, Cyril Mitchell, before stalking off angrily to the pavilion.

During the same over, Kapil and Wessels appeared to collide as the South African captain took a run and Kapil seemed to suggest that Wessels's bat had struck his leg. Kapil had a shin injury treated on the field at the end of the over.

The incidents happened in the ninth over as South Africa replied to India's 147 after the touring team had given another disappointing batting display. The crowd continued to boo and heckle Kapil whenever the ball went near him.

Kapil was within his rights to remove the balls as he did, though it is an accepted courtesy to give the offending batsman a warning. Kapil, however, in the past nine days has already featured in three similar incidents with Kirsten and presumably decided that enough was enough.

Kapil warned Kirsten in the Test match at Johannesburg for backing up prematurely and in Monday's international at Cape Town he ran Kirsten out but did not appeal. Later in Monday's game he again removed the balls but the second time Kirsten had not left his ground.

India slumped to 84 for seven in the 36th over of the day-night match after winning the toss. Amre and More led a minor rally but there was never any likelihood of a large total. South Africa bowled with control and fielded spectacularly but India's batting and their running between the wickets was abject.

South Africa were 62 for three after 25 overs in reply.

INDIA: A D Jadeja c McKillan b Schulz 5; V V Ramesh b Mathews 30; M Ahasanullah run out 5; S R Tendulkar c Richardson b Colleson 10; S V Manjrekar run out 17; K Anurag c Phipps b McKillan 30; Kapil Dev c Phipps b McKillan 1; M Prabhakar c Richardson b McKillan 1; V S Nair b McKillan 35; R Kumble b McKillan 1; J Srinath not out 1.

Extras (lb 3, nb 2) 5

Total (48.4 overs) 147

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24; 2-40; 3-48; 4-65; 5-81; 6-82; 7-84; 8-118; 9-144.

Bowling: Donald 10-4-26-0; Schulz 9-1-25-1; Mathews 10-4-20-7; McKillan 9-4-32-4; Colleson 6-0-10-1; Colleson 5-0-13-1.



Karen Roberts, right, was named 1992 Young Sports Woman of the Year yesterday (Louise Taylor writes). One of Britain's foremost young judo players, Roberts, 15, received £5,500 to help cover her travelling and training expenses from the award's sponsors - Tampax and the Women's Sports Foundation.

Roberts, from Berkshire, won the junior world championship in Argentina this year and a bronze medal at last week's European championships in Israel.

Sally Gummell, who presented Roberts with her award, said: "I am so pleased about these awards for the young women of this country. I know from experience how difficult it is to manage the financial burden caused by training when you have no regular income."

Zoe Edge, 17, from Chesterfield, was named Young Disabled Sports Woman of the Year. Edge, who has cerebral palsy and is an international boccia competitor, intends to use her prize of £1,500 to

help purchase a new electric sports wheelchair.

An individual award went to Fiona Fazackerley, a volleyball player from Stone. Fazackerley is 18 and intends to put her £1,500 towards travel and training costs. The team/community programme winners were ACTIVATE from Leeds.

In the coaching category, Lisa Jackson, 17, was presented with £1,500. Jackson is a football coach and will invest the cash in courses to enhance her training skills.

Chase following a comfortable victory on heavy ground at Cheltenham last month, but prefer Rifle Range, who will also relish the soft going.

Bishops Island, my choice for the Southport Bicentenary Novices' Chase, is entitled to the benefit of the doubt since he was going well when he made a bad mistake on his chasing debut at Newbury. His form over hurdles last season was useful.

Graham McCourt is entrusted with today's nap on the 11-10 favourite, the little Grange Novices' Hurdle. If the connections of this smart former Irish bumper were disappointed when he was beaten by High Altitude on today's track three weeks ago, they had cause to revise their opinion after High Altitude had won his next race in some

1.50 RONNIE JOHNSTON MEMORIAL TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE
 (\$4,662; 4m 11yod) (6 runners)

1	218162	FOUR TROX 19	DR J.F. Davis	3	Richards	11-11-7	R	Demaree
2	3525-22	PACIFIC BOY 21	(B.F. Davis)	6	Reading	LL M Page 7-1-1	P	Stardom
3	18173	23-12	DR J.F. Davis	1	Richards	11-11-7	P	Stardom
4	218161	ALL JEFF 41	(B.F. Davis)	5	Richards	11-11-7	P	Stardom
5	4-2525	SLINGERDODGE DR 16	(J. Lindquist)	4	Winton	5-10-2	L	Harvey
6	4-2525	OT THE 1910 10	(B.G. Davis)	1	Richards	11-11-7	M	J. Stardom

Lost: none

BETTING: Exact Place Pay, 100-30 Four Trox, 1-2 Glenelg/LTJL, 15-2 All Jeff, 12-1 Plenty Candy, 20-1 OT the 1910.

FORM FOCUS

FOUR TRICK 7) 2nd of 9 to Xiklomo in a handicap chase at Aintree (Jan 3), good to soft. PACOS (1lb better off) 1st 5th. ALL JEFF 59/1 3rd of 10 Merry Maids in a handicap chase at Wetherby (3

2.20 WIDNES KILLER HURDLE (1/4, 5/16, 2m 40) (7 runners)

1	10211-5	BIGHAVY 55 (Juff, F&J (at Lorne))	M Pigeon 5-10-13	P Sawdown
2	1468-19	VALLANT WARRIOR 12 (Duff)	W 10-12-13	P Tullaghan
3	126	AS D'YUOL 9 (J) (at O'Connell)	Young Pigeon 5-16-10	W Owen (7)
4	0-2262	SULTANS 30 (2) (at Cather)	J Lyons 6-10-11	R Sappell
5	033-43	TESSENGHEDU 91 (at Sars) (at Racing Ltd)	M City 4-10-8	D J Burchell
6	140-20	SANDFORD SPRINGS 24 (Duff)	W 10-12-13	J Connel
7	0	NELSONS LASS 381 (Pheasant Lion Ltd)	M Sweeney 4-10-2	

BETTING: 10-11 Bighavy, 5-1 Sandford Springs, 7-1 Sultans 30, Valiant Warrior, 10-11 As D'Yuol, Tullaghan, 20-1 Nelson's Lass.

FORM FOCUS

BIGHAVY 1461 56 lb is 2 lb younger in a handicap hurdle at Cheshamstead (2m 70yd). Always VALLANT WARRIOR best. He was 5 lb in 11-runner hurdle at Wexford on penultimate start (2m 40 yd).

TESSENGHEDU 91 3rd of 8 to Sarsbury Gate in conditional quarter claiming hurdle at Sarsbury (2m 40 yd) on 12/12. SANDFORD SPRINGS 24 4th of 8 to Bekeaton in 2m 40 yd hurdle at Sarsbury on 12/12.

2.20 WIDEN CLASSIFIED HURDLE (\$1,548; 2m 4f) (7 runners)

1	10231-5	BIGHAVY 25 (J.F.F.) (J. Lumes)	10 Pigeon 5-10-13	P Sanderson
2	1406-18	VALUANT WARRIOR 12 (D.P.) (P. Sallum)	10 Hammers 4-10-12	P Nelson
3	125	45 DYOBOL 19 (G.) (A. Jivich)	5-10-16	W Wren (7)
4	9-24-85	SULTANA'S SON 20 (A. Cohen)	4 Upton 4-10-14	R Spence
5	443-103	QUESSOR 154 (R. Star)	4-10-14	Oliver Clay
6	200-224	SANDFORD SPINNES 14 (G.) (W. Milnes)	2 Dunelm 5-10-10	J.J. Brunsell
7	10-15-85	SCLOSER 28 (R. Star)	Widow Lums 5-10-16	J. Clarke

BETTING: 10-11 Bighavy, 5-1 Sandford Spinnes, 7-1 Sultana's Son, Widest Winner, 10-14 As Dyobol, Tenthredin, 20-1 Sultana's Lass.

FORM FOCUS

BIGHAVY 14041 56 of 5 to Japanese in a handicaps round at Chesham, 2m 4f (July, heavy). **VALUANT WARRIOR** had three 1m 5f to 11-runners score twice at Wootton on good-to-soft rain (2m 4f 10-11, 10-12).

QUESSOR 154 10-11 of 10 to Princess in a novice hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 10-11).

SULTANA'S SON 20 2nd of 5 to Le Princess in a novice hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 10-11).

TESSERUNDO 91 2nd of 4 to Spentier Palace in a conditional jumper's clubbush hurdle at Bletchley (2m 4f 11-10), good to firm.

SANDFORD SPINNES 2041 4th of 8 to Bletchley in a conditional hurdle at Twicken (2m 4f 10-10), good to soft.

SCLOSER 28 1st of 10 to Spentier Palace in a novice hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 10-11).

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

10-3659-D RUN ALLEY At Goodwin Racing Ltd Mts S Austn 4-10-77 C Gnt
BETTING: 5-1 to Strangle, 5-2 Union Castle, 3-1 Shadlight, 1-4 Matched, Relic, 2nd - Eonless Storm, 5-1
Misty, Shintay Art, 3-1 Lorie Fawn, 50-2 Form.

FOCUS

SHADLIGHT best Lambshead 6-1 to 13-year-old novice hurdle Chapsdale (Cm, soft), **LO STRECHER**
11st 2nd 10 to 11 High Ashford in 4 novice hurdle
novice (Cm, soft) with 10 to 11 in 11 to 12
pulled up three out. **RELIC** 21st/48 of 11 to
be failed in a conditional jockey's novice hurdle at
East Cam (H, soft), **UNION CASTLE** 2 2nd of 9
in 11 to 12 to a novice hurdle at Wincanton (Cam,
11lb), soft, **RUN ALLEY** 21st/48 of 14
to 12 to a novice hurdle at a Wincanton Dam
Selling:

Solicitor: LD STRECHER

2.00 FOX TROT HANDICAP (£2,384; 7f) (9)

[illegible][illegible]

1-2	A (Barn) (5)	10	WYMPY SPURRIER P (Laden) 0-2	W Ryan
3-4	Al (Barn) (5)	11	0000 SCOTTISH B (Trinder) 0-5	Kim Trinder
5-6	A (Barn) (5)	12	3-4 Myrtle Island, 11-14 Seaford, 7-2 Denon To Order, 5-1 Keep Bushes	5-1
7-8	L (Cater) (7)	13	8-1 Myrtle Island, 11-14 Seaford, 12-1 Rhano, 30-1 absent	30-1
9-10	S (Wood) 6			
11-12	Chain Building (7)			
13-14	5-1 Top Town, 7-1 Tarnet, 20-1 absent			

3.00 RUMBA CLAIMING STAKES
(Div 1: £2,343; 1m 4f) (5)

1	0254	WAPLE (B) 3-1	W Ryan
2	0235	TEMPERANCE (B) 4-1	W Ryan
3	0400	UNCOMMON (B) 5-1	W Ryan
4	0270	WELSH (B) 4-1	W Ryan
5	0200	WELSH (B) 4-1	W Ryan

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13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-

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AUSTRALS

1-6 PMO DRUMMERS' Dream 138 (P) Murch 30-3 hrs Macdonald 4-5-5
A Menzies
15 6910 CANINO A RORNA 157 (P) Murch 30-3 hrs Macdonald (P)
15 6900 BASSETLAW HILL 750 S Bowring 3-3 hrs J Dalry
5-7 Indian Endeavour, 5-1 Belle Vue, 5-1 Los Lampo, La Placé; 8-1 The De Maist, 10-1 Conynghams, Drummers' Dream, 12-1 Liffordale Bay, 14-1 oph

Blinkered first time

SOUTHWELL: 1.00 Gnamra. 1.30 Green's Seago, Throness
don. 3.00 Maljeans Steamer.

ALISTS

15 0010 DRUMMER'S DREAM 138 (VJLDF) Mxy, M Macready 4-5
16 6400 CANNON A RIVER 157 PM Michael 3-4-5 John McDonald
17 0005 BASSSET/LAW BELLE 150 S Browning 3-4-5 J. Diller
5:2 Indian Overture, S-1 Hiram Vinton, 1-1 Rex Lamp, Lm Chic, 1-1 The Dixie
Katie, 1-1 J. Cunningham, Elmer's Dwell, 1-1 Lillian Ray, 1-1 others

Blindered first time

SOUTH-WELL: 1.00 Gensera. 1.30 Green's Green, 1.40
also, 3.00 Majestic Sinclair.

not race again this season
his tendon injury last month.
announced that Bill Gredley
chosen as Owner of the Year
92 Flat season.

GUIDE TO IN-LINE RACECARD

1 113143 6000 TIMES 13 (R.F.6.5) (McG. O. Rubens) B Ball 12-0 B West (7)
 Paced gait. Sa-figure form (F—) left F—
 runner gait. (U—) unsteady under. (B—) brought
 down. S— slipped out. G— galloping. R—
 unacquainted. Horse name. Days since last
 outing. F— flat. G— galloping. V— victory.
 H— horse. L— Lynchel. C— closing. W—
 outside winner. CD— close and distance.

Winner (F)— beaten. Branded in latest race
 coming off which has been (F)— first. Good
 form. Ball. B— good. S— stall, good in
 heavy. Owner or breeder. Trainer. Age
 weight. Older plus, any allowance. The Age
 Private. Handicapper's calling.

2.10 GAY SHEPPARD MEMORIAL CHALLENGE TROPHY HANDICAP

HURDLE (£1,955, 3m 110yds) (14 runners)

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

1 113143 6000 TIMES 13 (R,F,G,S) (Mile; G Robinson) B Hail 12-0 B West 12-0

Racecard notes: Six-figure numbers in **bold** = left P = right P = **1** = first round **2** = second round **3** = third round **4** = fourth round **5** = stepped up **6** = re-raced **7** = re-raced **8** = stepped up **9** = stepped up **10** = stepped up **11** = stepped up **12** = stepped up **13** = stepped up **14** = stepped up **15** = stepped up **16** = stepped up **17** = stepped up **18** = stepped up **19** = stepped up **20** = stepped up **21** = stepped up **22** = stepped up **23** = stepped up **24** = stepped up **25** = stepped up **26** = stepped up **27** = stepped up **28** = stepped up **29** = stepped up **30** = stepped up **31** = stepped up **32** = stepped up **33** = stepped up **34** = stepped up **35** = stepped up **36** = stepped up **37** = stepped up **38** = stepped up **39** = stepped up **40** = stepped up **41** = stepped up **42** = stepped up **43** = stepped up **44** = stepped up **45** = stepped up **46** = stepped up **47** = stepped up 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1991: POACHER'S DELIGHT 5-9 D Richmond (4) 1-bay Mrs S Williams 14 km

3.40 ASHILL NOVICES HURDLE (Div II): £1,495: 2m 10 (14 runners)

1 1 ENEVALTO STORM 55 (G) de McGrath N Hamilton 5-11-4 J Kinnear
 2 2009 JIMMY GORE 55 (G) de Tector J Netherland 5-11-4 J Kinnear
 3 213132 WELSH SINGER 14 (B/S) J Wetherby P Hedger 5-11-4 M Richards
 4 44-CORCORAN 54R (G) J Patten E 5-10-12 J Patten
 5 409349 PAMELA 54 (G) J Patten E 5-10-12 J Patten
 6 10-10-12 J Patten
 7 10-10-12 J Patten
 8 10-10-12 J Patten
 9 10-10-12 J Patten
 10 10-10-12 J Patten
 11 10-10-12 J Patten
 12 10-10-12 J Patten
 13 10-10-12 J Patten
 14 10-10-12 J Patten

BETTINE: 1-4 Cobden, 5-2 Emerald Star, 7-2 Welsh Singer, 8-1 Smiley Girl, 10-1 other.

1991: WOODPATHER 5-9 D Wood 5 P Scotland 6 (5-11) M Page 14 km

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Fox elected

Sir Paul Fox was confirmed the new chairman of the Racecourse Association at an extraordinary meeting of its members in London yesterday. His term runs for the years from March 2, 1991, when the current chairman, J. Warr, will be retiring.

Fox elected
Sir Paul Fox was confirmed as the new chairman of the Racecourse Association at an extraordinary meeting of its members in London yesterday. His term runs for the years from March 2, 1991 when the current chairman, J Warr, will be retiring.


RANK		NAME	AGE	WTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAW	NO. FIGHTS
1	1	DAVID G. HERRICK	28-1	155	12	0	0	12
2	2	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
3	3	DAVID J. HARRIS	28-1	155	12	0	0	12
4	4	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
5	5	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
6	6	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
7	7	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
8	8	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
9	9	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
10	10	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
11	11	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
12	12	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
13	13	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
14	14	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
15	15	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
16	16	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
17	17	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
18	18	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
19	19	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
20	20	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
21	21	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
22	22	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
23	23	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
24	24	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
25	25	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
26	26	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
27	27	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
28	28	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
29	29	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
30	30	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
31	31	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
32	32	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
33	33	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
34	34	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
35	35	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
36	36	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
37	37	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
38	38	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
39	39	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
40	40	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
41	41	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
42	42	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
43	43	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
44	44	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
45	45	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
46	46	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
47	47	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	12
48	48	JOHN J. BROWN	30-1	155	12	0	0	

	101	201
HAYDOCK PK	102	202
THURTON	103	203
SOUTHWELL	120	220
PUNCHSTOWN	122	222
GREYTHOUS		

Jones lodges appeal against £20,000 FA fine over video

sport to be a trapeze artist.

CHANNEL 4



Help feed a starving visitor this winter – *join the RSPB.*

Every year, millions of wild birds from Northern Europe come to Britain to survive the harshness of winter. Sadly, our natural environment is disappearing, leaving fewer and fewer refuges to support them.

The RSPB has established over 100 nature reserves where birds – and other wildlife – can rest, feed and shelter. But more are urgently needed.

Please join us today. It will help us to increase Britain's safe havens – and you will receive a FREE birdtable to help the birds who visit your garden this winter.

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☐ Cheque/PO (payable to RSPB) ☐ Access/Visa

Card number: Expiry date: /

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Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms. _____ (PLEASE PRINT)

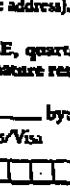
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A5067

Leading golfers under attack

Faldo spares few feelings in critical outburst

By MEL WEBB

NICK Faldo, the world's leading golfer and probably the best player that Britain has produced, has spoken out on the problems of combining success on the course with universal popularity off it.

Faldo, who won nearly £800,000 in Europe during a record-breaking season in which he won the Open Championship for the third time and took four other titles, spares nobody's feelings in an interview to be published in the January issue of *Golf World* magazine.

In it he talks about his own attitude to the game and the public conception of him, attacks the golfing press and also talks critically about his fellow players, Ian Woosnam and José María Olazábal among them.

Faldo is a man who is driven by a search for perfection in a game that offers little margin for error and in which the dividing line between success and failure is a tortuously narrow one. He is an easy man to admire, not always so easy to like.

He is unrepentant, however, about his desire to succeed. "It is very un-British to win," he said. "Even if you are the nicest guy in the world, you can't please everybody."

At the European Tour dinner on Monday night Faldo collected the Harry Vardon Trophy, awarded to the leading money-winner on the Tour, and also the Ritz Club Golfer of the Year award. By his own confession, he has been trying to smile more on the course this season.

However, he won few friends in the golfing press and beyond when, after winning the Open at Muirfield in July, he hit back at some of his critics in his acceptance speech by saying: "I'd like to thank the press from the bottom of my heart, well, from the heart of my bottom, anyway."

Five months on, he has no regrets about that remark. "The only pressure I felt came from the media," he said. "I even had TV commentators telling me my putting stroke was wrong. Well, it all came out. I got it off my chest."

"But I made sure I didn't say anything bad about anybody. I thought, if I am going to do it, make sure you don't say what you really feel. Everything I said was totally harmless. The 20,000 people sitting there all laughed. It was all done tongue-in-cheek."

"I am annoyed that some people take it the wrong way because you have to go

through what we go through. I got the last line for once. You never get the last line with the press or with TV."

Turning his attention to his fellow players, he spoke of Woosnam — with whom he had a successful Ryder Cup partnership until they were defeated twice in the match at Kiawah Island last year — as "Mr Powerhouse". "But he's a bit one dimensional on the draw," he said. "He doesn't fade it enough."

Faldo's criticism did not end there. Olazábal, he said, "is going to be held up by his technique because he reverse-puts with a mega-weak grip."

"He is putting his body under unbelievable strain, which is fine when he is 26. But the day that he gets up there to 30 it all changes."

Faldo has kinder things to say about Severiano Ballesteros. "His charisma and style of play have been fantastic for our tour and for golf in general," he said.

Yet, he added, when he met the great Spaniard in the Toyota World Match Play Championship for the first time, he looked at his opponent's swing and told himself that it would not last 36 holes. He told himself that Ballesteros would make mistakes and that he should be patient. "And sure enough, it worked," Faldo said.

Whatever else, Faldo has never been a man to duck issues. In going on the record so critically about his fellow players, however, he stands to lose a little of even their respect.

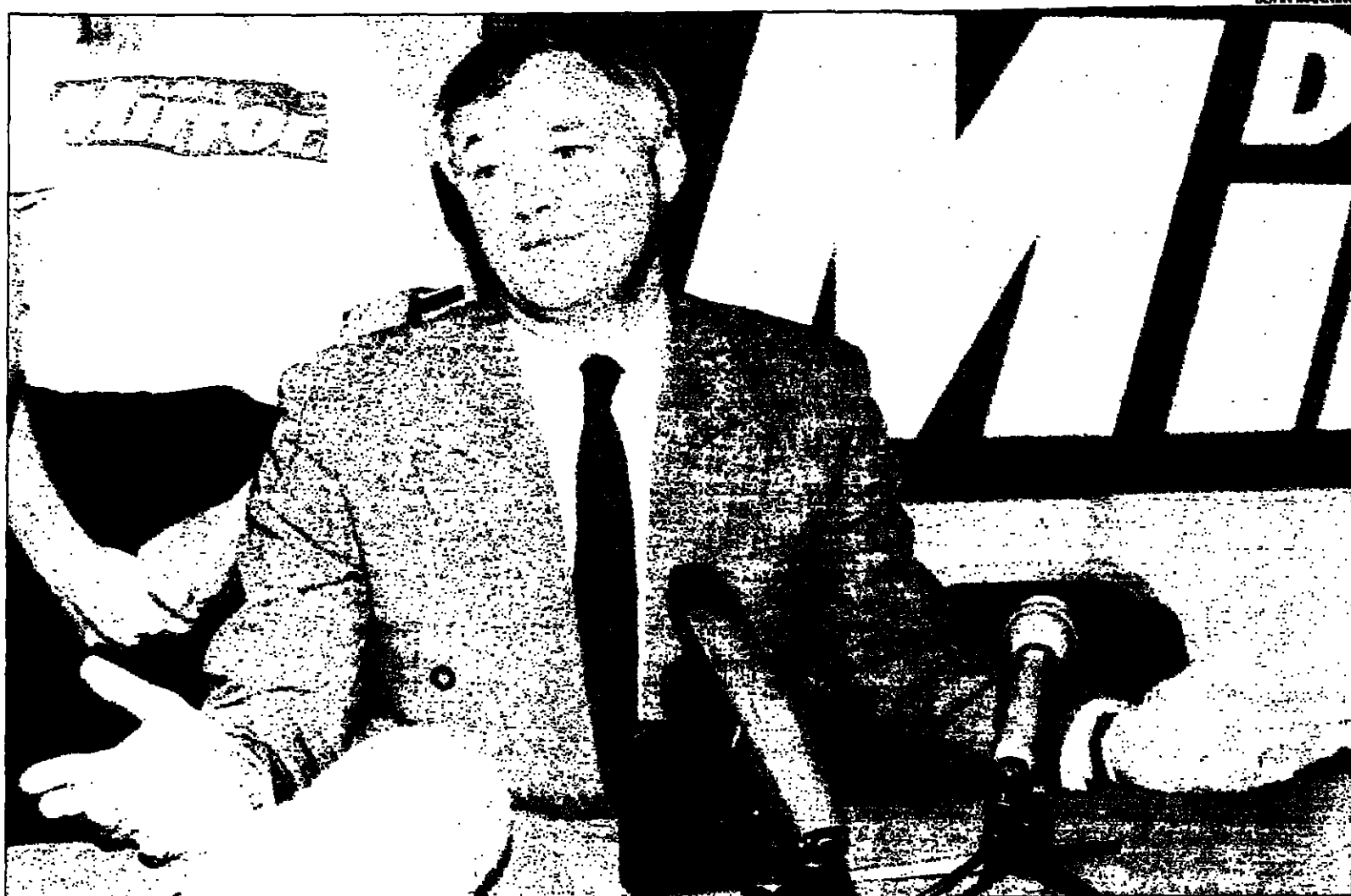
Solheim Cup side tastes more success

THE European Solheim Cup women's team has beaten Nick Faldo, the Open champion and world No. 1 player, to win the Golf Writers' Trophy for 1992. The side, inspired on the course by Laura Davies and off it by Mickey Walker, beat the United States 11½-6½ at Dalmahoy in October.

The award is given to the golfer or golfers who, in the opinion of the writers, made an outstanding contribution for Europe during the year.

Walker, who won the trophy as Britain's leading woman amateur player in 1972, said: "I'm delighted for my team and for women's professional golf, too. Ours is a sport that does not get much publicity and it is fantastic that the writers should recognise the team's achievement."

It is the fifth time in eight years that a team has taken the award.



Empty-handed: Barry Hearn, the promoter, explains the absence of Nigel Benn from a news conference yesterday before his World Boxing Council super-middleweight title defence against Nicky Piper at Alexandra Palace in London on Saturday.

Benn arrived in England yesterday from his Tenerife training camp and flatly refused to meet the media, despite being reminded by Hearn of his contractual obligations. Benn could now be fined, and Hearn plans to meet him face to face to discuss his non-appearance.

"What happens next depends on my negotiations with Nigel," Hearn said. "He is obviously tense and focused on his first defence; all fighters would be. Unfortunately, he has forgotten the golden rule that you have got to sell a fight as well as fight a fight."

"It is unprofessional. I don't expect this kind of behaviour from anybody, least of all a world champion. He was told through his commercial manager seven days ago that he would be required today. When I rang him he said he wasn't coming. There were no excuses whatsoever — none were offered."

Benn will be receiving a purse "well into six figures" for fighting Piper, of Wales, having taken the championship from the Italian Mauro Galvano, in Rome two months ago.

Lewis speculation, page 40

Hastings brothers end Exiles' hopes

Edinburgh 20
Scottish Exiles 19

By ALAN LORIMER

EDINBURGH preserved their unbeaten run in the McEwan's inter-district championship when they beat the Scottish Exiles at Meggetland yesterday by the narrowest of margins. In front of the Scottish selectors, Edinburgh had the satisfaction not only of winning, but also of finishing 2-1 ahead in the try count.

The Exiles, perhaps feeling the effects of a punishing schedule of four games in ten days, could not reproduce the sustained forward pressure they exerted against the South on Saturday. The rolling mauls which were so successful against the Borderers were missing, and this may partly have been due to the decision to leave out Neale Provan and play Iain Morrison and Ian Smith. The two flankers, who play in a similar style, contributed to the Exiles' only try, but Provan's absence appeared to cost them dear in the lineout and in close-quarter play.

The Exiles led 6-3 at half-time, after two penalties by Mark Appleton to one by Ally Donaldson. The game, which had shown signs of animation just before the interval, burst into life at the beginning of the

second half. Scott Hastings crossed for a try for Edinburgh after a move begun by Scott Aitken and carried on by Jock Kerr and Brian Hay-Smith.

The elder of the Hastings brothers, Gavin, then delivered a further blow to the Exiles' hopes when he scored a splendid try, taking a short pass from Donaldson to race in unopposed. Donaldson again converted, and although Appleton put over a third penalty for the Exiles, Donaldson gave Edinburgh an 11-point lead with his fourth successful kick.

The Exiles responded with a try by Brian Gilchrist after clever interplay between Mark Sly and Smith. Sly added the conversion and with three minutes remaining, Appleton narrowed the gap to a point with another penalty, but the Exiles could not make any further impression.

SCORERS: Edinburgh: Tries: S Hastings; G Hastings; Conversions: J Hastings; G Hastings; Donalson (2); Scottish Exiles: Try: Gilchrist; Conversion: Sly; Penalty goals: Appleton (3).
EDINBURGH: S Hastings (Wastons), C Gilchrist (Wastons), D Wylie (Stewart's Melville), C Gilchrist (Hendry's), J Robertson (Hendry's), S Reid (Boroughmuir), Wright (Boroughmuir), S Aitken (Wastons), M Ruckin (Wastons), A Macdonald (Hendry's), P Robertson (Hendry's), S Reid (Boroughmuir).
SCOTTISH EXILES: (London Scottish) unles stated, M Appleton, I Morrison, F Harold, M Sly, D Christie (Glasgow); R Grant (Glasgow), D Murray, A Sharp (Glasgow), S Gilchrist, P Burnard, I Smith (Glasgow), D Cronin, A Reid (Bath), I Morrison, D Mcleish (Preston).
Referee: K McCutcheon (Preston).

Williams fined in France

THE French grand prix could be scrapped next year and the Formula One motor racing championship calendar heavily revised because of a law banning cigarette advertising.

The future of the French race, the oldest grand prix, is expected to be added as an emergency item to the agenda when the International Motor Sports Federation (Fisa) meets in Paris today.

The race at Magny-Cours on July 4 is under threat because of the actions of the French anti-smoking lobby and a provincial court judgment against Britain's Williams team for carrying cigarette adverts at the Australian grand prix in Adelaide last month.

Williams was fined £3.5 million and now runs the risk of having its cars and equipment seized if it travels into or across France — unless it pays the fine or wins an appeal. Frank Williams said: "This is a very serious situation and one we are looking at very closely."

A court in Brittany ruled against Williams and in support of the elimination of all tobacco advertising — not only on French territory but also in other countries when beamed into France on television.

Mansell's rethink, page 40

Grobelaar prepares to end Anfield career

BRUCE Grobelaar is ready to leave Liverpool after 11 years at Anfield. Grobelaar has recently been on the substitutes' bench, first losing his goalkeeping place to David James and then to Mike Hooper.

Now, according to national newspaper reports yesterday, the Zimbabwean, 35, accepts that his career on Merseyside is over.

"I have slowly realised that I am not in Liverpool's plans for the future," Grobelaar is quoted as saying. "I love the club so much I wanted to play for Liverpool until I was over 40. But I'm disheartened to realise my future is not with Liverpool and life is too short to sit around doing nothing."

Grobelaar, due to play for

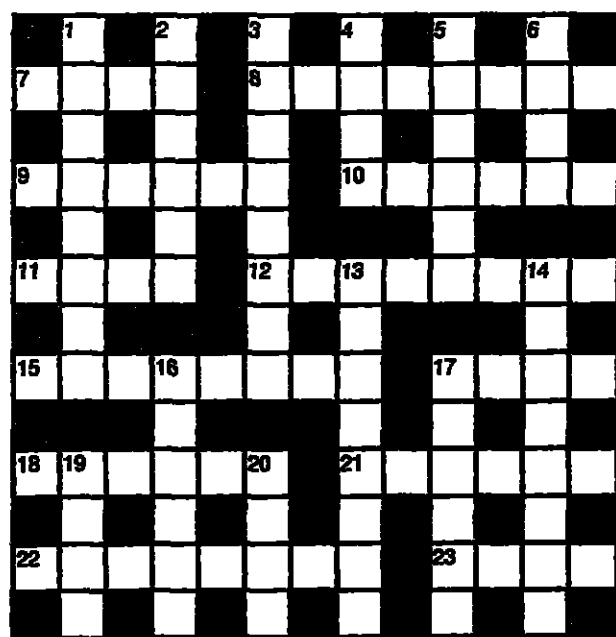
Zimbabwe in a World Cup qualifying match against Egypt in Harare on Sunday week, has hardly been out of the news since succeeding Ray Clemence.

Signed for £250,000 from Vancouver Whitecaps in 1981, he has made 591 appearances, conceded 489 goals, kept 254 clean sheets and played a big part in helping Liverpool win 13 major trophies.

Grobelaar, who still has 18 months of his contract to run at Anfield, is keen to continue his career in England, but he added: "If all doors are closed to me in this country, I'm willing to play abroad."

"I'm prepared to go anywhere. I will give 100 per cent to whoever I play for."

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2967



ACROSS

- 7 Ring (4)
- 8 White Rhine wine (8)
- 9 Grand Canal city (6)
- 10 Riverbed scraper (6)
- 11 Lean over (4)
- 12 US lorry driver (8)
- 13 Ninepins (8)
- 14 Clothes pest (4)
- 15 Malleable (6)
- 21 Character (6)
- 22 Steelmaker's vessel (8)
- 23 Bolt partners (4)

DOWN

- 1 Unorthodox type (8)
- 2 Off course (6)
- 3 Far Eastern (8)
- 4 Vendetta (4)
- 5 Grippiers (6)
- 6 Cosy (4)
- 13 Someone not present (8)
- 14 Whole (8)
- 15 Hypnotic state (6)
- 17 Naval rebellion (6)
- 19 Master (4)
- 20 London Underground (4)

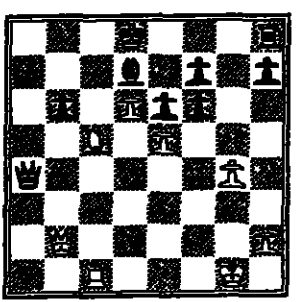
SOLUTIONS TO NO 2966

ACROSS: 1 Scrag 4 Vapours 8 Mythology 9 Car 10 Apt 11 Foolhardy 12 Titch 13 Livid 16 Disarming 18 Ref 20 Lit 21 Induction 22 Riposte 23 Loyal
DOWN: 1 Samba 2 Ratatouille 3 Go off the rails 4 Voodoo 5 Psychological 6 Ulcer 7 Sprayed 12 Tiddler 14 Varsity 15 Middle 17 Set up 19 Final

WINNING MOVE

By RAYMOND KEENE, Chess Correspondent

This position is a variation taken from the game Plaskett — Mestel, Foreign & Colonial Hastings Premier 1986/87. Jim Plaskett is one of England's most dangerous attacking grandmasters. How did he force checkmate here? This year's Hastings tournament features the Hungarian prodigy Judit Polgar. Further details from the British Chess Federation on 0424 442500. Solution on page 39.



CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: For mail order details of all Times Crossword Books and The Times Computer Crossword software with help levels, (runs on most PCs), call Alton Ltd on 081 852 4575 (24 hrs) or CDS on 0302 890000 - STOP PRESS! just released - the First Book of The Times Jumbo Concise Crosswords - ring Alton.

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

YUKE

- a. To play the ukulele
 - b. To itch
 - c. A Ukrainian American
- VALI**
a. Sicilian for farewell
b. A Turkish governor
c. To look after men's clothes

Answers on page 39

PADROADIST

- a. A sugar daddy
 - b. A Portuguese Catholic sectarian
 - c. A jogger
- NEPENTHES**
a. A soothing drug
b. Nethermost Hell
c. Rhetorical sarcasm for effect

Women earn equal rights to race

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

MALE athletes are no longer safe from the greatest of ignominies — losing to a woman — after the decision announced yesterday to let the fairer sex loose on men's events in graded track and field meetings. Kriss Akabusi against Sally Gunnell at 400 metres hurdles? Unlikely but at least the rules now allow it.

British women, as Joan Allison, the national team manager, made clear two years ago, have had a raw deal in racing opportunities. Allison came away from the 1990 European championships in Split, after the British men had won eight gold medals and the women one, complaining the same opportunities were not there for women.

Yesterday, Gwenda Ward, a member of the women's advisory group that was behind the move to persuade the British Athletic Federation (BAF) to let women compete on the track against men, said: "We can trace this back to Joan's outburst." The BAF described its announcement as "evolutionary" although, of course, women have been running on the roads against men for years.

It does not mean that women will compete against men in the national championships nor in local leagues. Its usefulness to women lies mainly in providing improved scope for setting personal best performances.

In the case of the best British women athletes, finding good domestic opposition to enhance self-improvement can be difficult whereas running against men may be more likely to bring them on.

"This is really good news," Alison Wreth, the Barrow Olympic 3,000 metres finalist and International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) project manager, said. It would provide her, she said, with opportunities to sharpen up at 800 metres that she would otherwise not have.

She does not expect the men to behave like gentlemen towards her: "When you race against men, it can be rough; sometimes because men do not like being beaten by women. But I think that is good."

Christina Cahill, second to Zola Pieterse in the all-time British 1,500 metres rankings, believes she would have

run closer to 3min 55sec than the 4:00.57 she accomplished in 1984 had this new option been open to her.

A senior BAF officer said: "With the exception of Fatima Whitbread, women have been relegated to second-rate status in the promotion of athletics — not taken seriously and shown only because they look good on television."

IAAF rules state that performances in mixed races are invalid for record purposes but the governing body is

unlikely to object to Britain's unilateral step. "We have got to be sensible in our policing. We would not rush on to the track and stop it," an IAAF spokeswoman said.

Ward wants the BAF to recognise performances for record and international team selection purposes. "I can see no reason why they should not be ratified as British records and I think it is something that could be taken up at IAAF level," he said.

David Bedford, the BAF secretary and former 10,000 metres world record-holder, has been a loyal advocate of the women's advisory group. He said that performances would be accepted by the IAAF for international championship team selection.



Allison: firm advocate

Can you solve this puzzle as fast as Einstein?

7	6	7			
3		6	2		
	6		4	4	
	4	3	3		
3	4	4	1		

Each line of five numbers must total 25. Place a number into each empty square in order to complete the grid. If you can complete this without using a calculator fill in the coupon below.

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